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Documents Relating to Detroit and Vicinity, 1805-1813

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PREFACE

THE documents contained in this volume are mainly letters from William Hull as Governor of Michigan Territory, to Henry Dearborn and William Eustis when they were respectively Secretary of War in the early and later parts of the period 1805-1813. In these letters various documents are enclosed, being mainly letters and reports from officers, traders, Indians and other persons living in the region. A considerable number of Hull letters and papers have already appeared in volumes 8, 15, 25 and 31 of this series.

Excepting Hull's *Defence*, the entire text is from photostat copies in the Burton Historical Collection of the Detroit Public Library, which were made from documents in the War Department; the *Defence* is direct from the original manuscript at Washington. The aim has been to reproduce the documents accurately, retaining the peculiarities of spelling, punctuation and capitalization except where these would be confusing. The volume of course is not one to be read casually, but for reference. Persons using the documents for serious purpose will be familiar, presumably, with the people, places, and general setting. Obviously the region covered is Michigan, Ohio, and Indiana; and the historical collections published by these states, among the materials valuable for elucidation of the documents, are easily accessible; as also are the general studies and special monographs upon the history of these states.

The Introduction to the volume, covering the life and service of Hull, was written originally for the *Year Book, Michigan Society Sons of the American Revolution, 1919-1923*, and is here printed substantially as it there appeared.

GEORGE N. FULLER.

January 2, 1929

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INTRODUCTION

WILLIAM HULL

INTRODUCTION

IN the life of William Hull, his surrender of Detroit has so concentrated the attention of historians and his biographers upon that episode that the rest of his career, including the governorship of the Territory of Michigan from 1805 to 1812, has passed almost without notice.

Born June 4, 1753, in Derby, Conn., he was graduated from Yale College in 1772, studied law, and was admitted to the bar in 1775. That same year a company was raised at Derby for the Revolutionary Army, and Hull was chosen its captain, and served with gallantry and credit during the entire war; became Major, Lieutenant Colonel and Colonel, and at the end of the war was retained as Lieutenant Colonel in the one regiment continued in service, and remained until 1786, when he resigned and removed to Newton, Mass., where he passed the rest of his life with the exception of the time spent in Michigan as Governor, and in the War of 1812.

In 1781 he married Sarah Fuller, of Newton, the daughter of Abraham Fuller, a citizen of that community of high standing, influence and means, and between the time of his marriage and retirement from the army he had three children, two daughters and an only son. He later became the father of five more daughters, so that altogether he acquired a family of seven daughters and one son.

Coming to Newton with the reputation of a brave and successful soldier, a friend of Washington, and the son-in-law of a man of local standing and influence, he quickly acquired an important position for himself. Although

admitted to the bar, he probably did not much engage in active practice. It was during his first year at Newton that the unrest and dissatisfaction at the close of the Revolution culminated in the uprising known as Shay's Rebellion, and at a town meeting in Newton in August, 1786, Hull, although just arrived in the town, was asked to prepare a reply to letters from the insurgents, and in January of the following year he took an active part as Aide to Governor Lincoln in suppressing the rebellion.

In the discussions and campaign on the adoption of the U. S. Constitution, Hull followed his old Commander-in-Chief and favored the adoption, although he subsequently became Jeffersonian in his sympathies.

In 1788 he was appointed Justice of the Peace, an office in Massachusetts of some importance, and continued to hold the office until his removal to Michigan, becoming also in 1793 a Special Justice of the Common Pleas, in 1797 Justice of the Common Pleas, and the following year a Justice of the Peace and of the Quorum.

During all this period he was interested in the State Militia, being Brigadier General for some years and Major General from 1797. He was a founder and charter member of the Massachusetts Society of Cincinnati, and a member of the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company of Boston and its Commander in 1789.

In February, 1792, he made an unsuccessful application for the appointment of Postmaster of Boston, and later in the spring of the same year he spent some time in Philadelphia as the representative of the Massachusetts Officers of the Revolutionary War in an attempt to induce Congress to make further and suitable compensation to the officers and soldiers of that war. The

attempt was renewed the following year, with the assistance of similar representatives from other states, but without success.

In January, 1793, he was appointed by Hamilton, Secretary of the Treasury, an Agent of the United States to visit Canada and if possible obtain supplies for the Indians who were expected to meet U. S. Commissioners during the following summer at Sandusky, for the purpose of effecting a treaty. He went to Niagara, where Governor Simcoe was stationed, and whose co-operation, or at least consent, was necessary to the success of his mission. This was not Hull's first trip to Canada. In 1784 he had gone to Quebec as the representative of the United States to arrange for the evacuation by the British of the Upper Posts along the Great Lakes, but without fault on his part was unsuccessful, nor were his efforts in this instance of much greater avail. General Hull arrived at Niagara February 3, where he found Governor Simcoe on the point of leaving on an official visit to the Thames River and Detroit, and in fact, he left the following day, but at a meeting between them declined for several reasons to allow provisions to be taken from Canada for the Indians. He, however, assured Hull that no impediment would be put by the British in the way of transporting such provisions over the lakes, and with this assurance the mission terminated.

In April, 1796, Hull bought for a combination of men, or, as we would now call it, a syndicate, for the expressed consideration of $50,000, from John Livingston of New York, the so-called "Excess land" in the Connecticut Reserve in Ohio. Owing to incorrect maps, the Reserve was supposed to contain cosiderably more than 3,000,000

acres, and when the State of Connecticut, after having given 500,000 acres at the western end of the Reserve to its citizens along Long Island Sound who had suffered from British attacks in the Revolution, offered the remainder for sale in 1795, John Livingston was one of the purchasers. Finally a combination was effected among the competitors, Livingston withdrew his bid, which had been the highest, under an arrangement that he was to have all the land in the Reserve in excess of three million acres upon condition of paying his proportionate share of the costs and expenses. When the surveys were completed, however, it was found that the Reserve contained much less than three million acres and Hull's investment must have been a total loss.

At about the same time Hull became interested in the famous—and later notorious—Yazoo lands in Mississippi. January 17, 1796, he appears with 32 others as purchasing a tract of one million acres, which they sold in the following March.

February 28, 1797, the Georgia-Mississippi Company, one of the original grantees from the State of Georgia of nearly 3,500,000 acres, conveyed its grant to William Hull and two others as Trustees for the New England Mississippi Land Co., and Hull continued as one of such Trustees until some time in 1803 or 1804. During the years of his Trusteeship there was much agitation in Congress and out over the so-called Yazoo lands, and after Hull became Governor of Michigan his connection with the matter was used as a basis of attack upon him, and this investment was probably a financial loss.

In 1795 Hull made a trip to Europe, going first to England and in the following spring to France and

Holland, where he visited Lafayette, with whom he had been on terms of warm personal friendship during the Revolutionary War.

He steadily advanced in the estimation of his community, and in 1802 was made a member of the State Senate, and held this influential position at the time of his appointment as Governor of Michigan.

Congress passed the Act creating the Territory of Michigan in January, 1805, but it did not become operative until July 1 of that year, so that ample time was given for the appointment by the President of the officials for the new government. It had been evident from the introduction of the bill December 14, 1804, that there would be no doubt of the creation of the new Territory, and the question of filling the new offices thus provided came up, and the position of Governor, both in salary and influence, was regarded as desirable. Friends of Governor Hull were early and influential with President Jefferson, in presenting the claims of a man who was politically in sympathy with the President's views, who had such a creditable civil and military career, and was not too old to expect to give a considerable number of years to active public service.

January 22, 1805, Gideon Granger, then Postmaster General, wrote to the President soliciting the position, but in the course of his letter said that he knew General Hull had been thought of for the place, and if he were willing to accept, he (Granger) would decline all competition.

Friends of Samuel Huntington, of Ohio, urged his appointment, but Senator Worthington wrote on February 26th, that when, shortly after the law passed, he

saw the President in regard to the appointment, the latter informed him that he had previously determined to appoint General Hull, of Massachusetts.

It is difficult now to ascertain the motives which induced General Hull to desire or accept this appointment. He was 52 years of age, of excellent standing and reputation in Massachusetts, but it is probable that his means had become impaired in the Ohio and Yazoo land speculations. Three of his daughters—Sarah, Eliza, and Rebecca—were married, and his family consisted of his wife, son and four daughters. The salary of the governor was fixed at $2,000.00, and the expenses attendant upon removal to so distant a point were considerable, so that from a financial standpoint the position to a man of profitable business or profession could not be considered attractive. However, he decided to accept the position, and on February 26 his name was sent to the Senate and unanimously confirmed on March 1st.

Receiving his commission in April, 1805, General Hull set out for his Territory in the following month by way of New York, then up the Hudson to Albany, where, on June 3, he took the oath of office before Vice-President Clinton, then went up the Mohawk River, over to Oneida Lake, and down the Oswego River to Lake Ontario, from there by sailing vessel to Niagara and Queenstown, and portage to Buffalo from which point he took the sailing vessel "Camden" to Detroit. Delays and uncertainties attended every step of this journey, and it is not to be wondered at that the trip consumed more than twice as many days as it now takes hours. The time in crossing Lake Erie depended on favorable winds, and in the following year, when he was returning to Detroit from a

journey to Washington and his old home, it took him twenty days to cross the lake.

With him on this trip were his wife, his son, Abraham Fuller Hull, who was killed in the battle of Lundy's Lane in the War of 1812, his daughter Nancy, who later married Harris H. Hickman, a young lawyer of Detroit, and his daughter Maria, who, later as Mrs. Campbell, wrote a life of her father. At Albany they were met by Stanley Griswold, newly appointed Secretary of the Territory, and his family, on their way from New Hampshire, and from that point they traveled together to Detroit. The early French explorers who had come up the Detroit River more than a century and a quarter before, had exhausted their vocabulary in describing the beauty of the scene—the river itself, the forests on both banks, the wild animals, which were then in large numbers, and during all that time but little change had come. Occasional gaps in the forest line, partly filled with the cabin and small cultivation of a French habitant, a lessening of the animals and the total disappearance of one—the buffalo—the infrequent appearance of a canoe or even a small sailing vessel, were the greatest changes, and we may well imagine the frequent expressions of delight from all the members of the party as on the first day of July, 1805, the new Governor and his Secretary sailed slowly up the Detroit River, and at evening came to anchor at the place where Detroit had been, and where unexpected problems confronted him.

His capital city had vanished, and instead of a compact little town of perhaps 400 people, for twenty days there had been only blackened chimneys and ashes. No mansion was awaiting the first governor, and even a hut was

difficult to obtain, and he was compelled to take up his residence in a small farm house a mile up the river. The desolate inhabitants, anxious to get new roofs over their heads and re-establish themselves as human beings and also men of business, had been persuaded to await the governor's coming before beginning town planning or building construction.

The first day was spent in arranging some place in which to live, in meeting and administering the official oath to the Secretary, and to Judges Woodward and Bates, and in the attempt to adjust himself to a situation so different in every respect from anything he had ever experienced; neither his civil nor his military life had furnished much preparation for the duties now facing him, multiplied as they were by the pressing needs of the unfortunate citizens of Detroit who comprised more than one-tenth of all the white people under his administration.

The form of government provided for the Territory comprised the Governor, a Secretary, and a Supreme Court consisting of three judges, who, together with the Governor, constituted the legislative body. Hull, while supporting the adoption of the Constitution of 1787, had anti-Federalist connections and leanings. Griswold, the Secretary, owned his appointment to his ministerial and editorial activity in Jefferson's behalf, and for the anti-Federalists. Judge A. B. Woodward, while avowing himself to be of no political party, was a strong friend and admirer of Jefferson. Judge Bates had no pronounced views, but his family connections made him an adherent of Jefferson's party. The third judge did not

reach Detroit until September, 1806, in the person of Judge Griffin.

The political atmosphere of Detroit was Federalist; its three representatives in the Assembly of the Northwest Territory were all of that party, and this fact, indicating it to be the prevailing sentiment in the region around Detroit, had caused that section to be cut off from the State of Ohio when it was formed in 1802.

The second day Governor Hull performed his first official acts in dividing the Territory into four Districts —Erie, Detroit, Huron, and Michillimackinac, and constituting the entire territory one district for the execution of process, and those parts of the Territory in which the Indian titles had been extinguished, one county, although those parts lay in a six-mile strip along the Detroit River and a similar strip at Mackinac. No name was given to this county, but apparently the name of Wayne, fixed in 1796, was understood to be continued, nor was any other county ever established by Governor Hull. On the same day the Governor and Judges Woodward and Bates sat for the first time in their legislative capacity at the house of James May and proceeded at once to consider the distressful condition of the people of Detroit. The solution arrived at a few days later was to lay out a town which would include the ground occupied by the old town and a considerable addition, chiefly on the north, which would include land claimed by the citizens as a common, but of which the apparent title was in the United States. The lots in the plan thus laid out were to be sold at auction to inhabitants of the old town, who were permitted to exchange the area of their old lots for an equal area in new lots, paying for the

excess area at the price fixed by the bidding. It was understood by all that no title could be given to the lots thus bought or exchanged, but the purchasers were assured that every attempt would be made to have Congress at its next session ratify the action.

In addition to this trouble, all the settlers outside of Detroit were anxious about their titles. With very few exceptions, nearly all their titles were based upon deeds from Indian chiefs followed by possession. These deeds had never been recognized by either the French, English or American governments as of any validity, and as nine years had now elapsed since the United States acquired jurisdiction, and nothing had been done to validate such titles, although repeated representations had been made to Congress, the owners became fearful that their claims would not be recognized.

Although the new Territory inherited all the laws of the Northwest Territory, the Governor and Judges seemed to feel that conditions in Michigan were sufficiently different to demand a new judicial system and considerable other legislation, including a new law providing a territorial militia. This law passed August 30, 1805, was based chiefly on the laws of New York, and among other provisions empowered the Commander-in-Chief—the Governor—to direct the color and fashion of the uniforms of the officers and men.

The following month after providing for regiments and companies and appointing their officers, the Commander-in-Chief issued an order that all officers and private soldiers should under penalty provide themselves with uniforms before the following June, the uniform of a private to be a long blue coat, extending to the knee,

white plain buttons, white underclothes in summer, white vests and blue pantaloons in winter, half boots or gaiters, round black hats, black feathers tipped with red, black cartridge and bayonet belts. The officers were to be proportionately more gayly arrayed. When the character and poverty of the people who constituted the militia is considered, the difficulty and expense of obtaining the outfits were so great and so ill-suited to their circumstances, that it is not strange that opposition arose, and malicious enemies of the Governor whispered that he was making a private speculation by bringing on a large quantity of the blue cloth, which could be obtained from no other supply. In the following winter during the absence from the Territory of Governor Hull, Secretary Griswold, acting commander-in-chief, suspended the order.

The anxiety of the residents of Detroit and of the country settlers over their titles increased, and on October 4th, 1805, a meeting was held at Detroit of officers of the Militia regiments, an address to the President authorized, and Governor Hull and Judge Woodward requested to present it to the President and use their endeavors to obtain the results desired.

It had been the intention of Governor Hull to return to his home in Massachusetts to settle up some of his private affairs, and as Congress was to meet in December and the necessity of their acting upon land titles urgent, and it was the general opinion that Judge Woodward, because of his former residence in Washington and acquaintance with public men, could be of great value in obtaining the needed legislation, on October 11 the Governor and Judge left Detroit for the Capitol city, going

by boat to Fort Erie, thence to New York and Washington. They took with them a report upon the situation drawn up by Woodward, and upon their arrival at Washington in December, presented it and the address of the militia officers to the President.

After remaining in Washington until in February, 1806, Governor Hull went to his home in Newton, Mass., and in the latter part of May left for his seat of government where he arrived June 7, after an unusually rapid journey. During his stay at his old home he had been approached by some capitalists of Boston, who persuaded him that it was their intention to organize a company to engage in the western fur trade and make Detroit their center of operations, and incidentally they proposed as a part of the scheme the establishment of a bank with a large capital to be incorporated in Michigan. In fact, the bank was the main if not the only real purpose of the associates, and although Governor Hull seems to have acted in good faith, he was a victim to his credulity and good nature. Judge Woodward did not return to Detroit until September 3, and at the first legislative session, Governor Hull introduced a petition for a bank, signed by the Boston promoters, and upon the matter being referred to him, he brought in a bill which after some discussion and amendments was adopted and the bank incorporated, Hull himself subscribing for five shares.

Judge Woodward stated not long afterward that Governor Hull desired to be the president of the new bank, but in this he was disappointed as the judge was elected. This may have had some effect upon the Governor's view of the institution, and when within a few months after the bank was incorporated, it fell into the hands of

Andrew Dexter, a noted bank speculator of Boston, and Congress disapproved of the Act creating it, he wrote to Madison, Secretary of State, that he rejoiced in the action of Congress.

When Governor Hull returned to Detroit in 1806 he brought with him some building materials and soon began the construction of a brick house—The first one in Detroit—on the southeast corner of Jefferson Avenue and Randolph Street. John Gentle, in his attack on the Governor, called it a palace. In 1815 General Hull deeded this property to his nephew, Commodore Isaac Hull, probably as security, as he was indebted to him, and the latter, a year later, reconveyed it to the general who, in January, 1817, conveyed it to Elkanch Watson, the well-known traveler, agriculturist, and perhaps the foremost progenitor of the Erie Canal, who had visited Detroit the year before and received a strong impression of its future. The building, after passing through many changes, became the American House, and was burned in the great fire of 1848.

When the Territory of Michigan was created it contained but a very small area to which the Indian title had been extinguished, this consisting of a strip six miles deep along Detroit River from Lake St. Clair to Raisin River, and a small piece at Mackinac. It was obvious that there could be no growth in the territory unless some room was obtained by getting the Indians to release their rights to additional ground.

In order to meet this necessity the President in January, 1807, issued a commission to Governor Hull to hold a treaty with the Indians interested and obtain a release of their title to two tracts of land, one bounded

on the south by the Miami (Maumee) River, west by a line running northwardly from the mouth of the Auglaize River to a point due west of the head of Saginaw Bay, thence east to Saginaw Bay and thence by the bay, Lake Huron and the international boundary to the mouth of Miami River. This area was supposed to contain 4,000,000 or 5,000,000 acres and Hull was authorized to pay one cent, if necessary, two cents, per acre. The other tract extended from the Miami River to the Connecticut or Western Reserve in Ohio, and was desired for the purpose of permitting communication between the Eastern and Southern settlements and Detroit.

A large part of the year 1807 was spent in arranging a treaty. Invitations were sent to the various tribes of the Chippewas, Ottawas, Wyandottes and Pottawatomies living or hunting within the desired district to meet at Detroit on July 4. It soon became evident that the Saginaw Chippewas, the largest and most turbulent tribe within the district, would not consent to the alienation of their land around Saginaw Bay, and as the treaty would not be acceptable without their taking part—their claims extending over the whole area north of Detroit—the meeting was postponed and was finally held and consummated at Detroit, November 7, 1807. An additional cause for postponement was the fluctuating state of mind in which Hull passed the summer of that year regarding the danger of war with England and of Indian outbreaks, of which exaggerated rumors were frequent.

The treaty as made extended the western boundary proposed by the President only as far north as a point opposite the foot of Lake Huron, thence to run northeasterly to White Rock, an object well known to the

Indians and held in veneration by them, and then following the international boundary line as suggested. This tract was estimated by Governor Hull to contain a little more than 5,000,000 acres and for it he engaged to pay $10,000, and an annuity forever of two thousand four hundred dollars, or capitalized at six per cent the principal sum of $40,000, equivalent to a total of $50,000, or a cost of one cent per acre.

The other tract, in Ohio, was secured by the Treaty of Brownstown, made by Governor Hull in November, 1808, and without any additional payment. In these negotiations Governor Hull showed good judgment in his treatment of the Indians and ability in obtaining the desired concessions.

During 1807 Governor Hull built the Council House at Detroit, a stone building at the southwest corner of Jefferson Avenue and Randolph Street, 25 feet by 47 feet, two stories high, for offices and meeting place with the Indians. He also built a stockade around a part of Detroit, to protect the people in case of Indian attacks.

There was dissension in his official family almost from the beginning. Secretary Griswold was at the head of a coterie whom Hull called British sympathizers, and who minimized the danger of Indian troubles, and to evidence his strong disapproval of their conduct, in July, 1807, Governor Hull removed James Abbott, a close friend of Griswold, from several offices to which he had been appointed, and in January, 1808, he issued a proclamation warning citizens against factions. The situation grew so unpleasant and notorious that it could not be ignored at Washington, with the result that the President, in February, 1808, removed Griswold from his

office of Secretary and Collector, and appointed Reuben Attwater, a native of Connecticut, but at that time residing in Vermont. Governor Hull's term expiring in the summer of 1808, the President sent his name to the Senate for reappointment February 19. There was considerable objection to confirmation, and it was not until March 31 that the nomination was confirmed, and then only by a vote of 18 to 10.

No doubt much of this opposition was due to a series of articles published in the Pittsburg Commonwealth and Philadelphia Aurora during 1807. They were written by John Gentle, an Englishman by birth, who had lived for some years in Detroit and who belonged to the faction of Secretary Griswold. His articles purported to be a History of the Territory of Michigan, and were in fact a series of malicious accusations against the conduct of Governor Hull and Judge Woodward, with just enough sprinkling of facts to give a small color of truth. Governor Hull was charged with being a "Burrite," a Yazoo speculator," with ordering the militia to purchase uniforms made from cloth which he furnished at a fat profit, and with many other improper and corrupt actions. These articles were widely read, and as Governor Hull never noticed them, or dignified them by a reply, they doubtless created in Congress some prejudice. Judge Woodward began a reply in the same papers in January, 1808, but as he defended Hull only as the latter was united with him in Gentle's charges, the reply was not of much advantage to Hull.

The year 1808 passed in much the same manner as 1807. Indian troubles were occasionally feared, but

probably without much real basis. Hull's correspondence with the Secretary of War shows that the activity of the Prophet, Tecumseh's brother, was felt all around the Northwest. In October Judge Witherell, who had been appointed to fill the place first held by Judge Bates, arrived in Detroit, and proved a welcome aid to the Governor in his struggle against Judge Woodward. The latter, a man of unusual mental attainments, well educated, greatly superior in capacity and training to the average, and coming to Detroit after several years spent in Washington, doubtless felt and perhaps indicated some impatience and contempt for his slower minded and less assertive fellow officials and associates. He and Governor Hull had frequently differed and on the occasion of Hull's reappointment he took a position with regard to his right to administer the oath of office to the new Governor, which did little credit to his good sense and was severely commented on by both Jefferson and Madison.

In November, 1808, Judge Woodward left for the East and just before leaving presented to the Governor and Judges sitting as a legislative body, a series of resolutions, several of which reflected severely on the Governor. They were referred to the Governor as a committee, and in his report he responded in kind. During Woodward's absence, under the influence of Judge Witherell, much legislation was enacted, adding some new laws and altering and repealing many of the old ones, and an illegal method was adopted of authenticating laws.

In February, 1809, Governor Hull received a communication from Washington requesting his presence there and indicating that President Madison, upon taking

office in March, intended appointing him Secretary of War. Surprised, but highly pleased with this preferment, and by the prospect of escape from a place and office which had many troubles, he was dined by some of his fellow citizens of Detroit, left the city the last of February, escorted some distance by a military troop, and started on his journey to Washington. On his arrival at Chambersburg, Pa., he was chagrined to receive a letter from Gideon Granger, Postmaster General, announcing that there had been so much objection to his appointment that the President was compelled to resign the idea. This shock and the fatigue of hasty travel brought on a fit of sickness, which detained him so that he did not reach Washington until the end of March. He was naturally very indignant at his treatment, and it required the active services of Mr. Granger to mitigate his resentment, and induce him to meet the President at the White House. The matter was finally smoothed over. Wm. Eustis, of Massachusetts, was appointed Secretary and Governor Hull returned to his post at Detroit, where he arrived June 7. Shortly after his return he went to Michillimackinac and held a council with the Indians whom he warned against the machinations of the Prophet and the influence of the British, and from there went over to Sault Ste. Marie and a short distance into Lake Superior.

The domestic situation at Detroit had not been improved by the absence of the Governor and Judge Woodward. The latter found on his return in May, 1809, that practically all the legislation prepared by him and known as the Woodward Code had been superseded by statutes prepared by Judge Witherell. One of the new statutes

contained sections expressly aimed at the Bank of Detroit, which was still in operation as a private enterprise, and in which Judge Woodward was still to a slight extent interested, another made a fundamental change in the manner of enacting laws and authenticating them. Early in October, 1809, a case came before the Supreme Court in which the validity of the authenticating statute was involved, and Judge Woodward, with Judge Griffin assenting, held that act, and by consequence all the other acts passed in his absence, invalid. Consternation followed, but within a few days Governor Hull, badly counselled by his partisans, issued in French and English a proclamation in effect directing the people to disregard the decision of the court and to continue obeying the invalid statutes. The Governor apparently did not send a copy of this proclamation to Washington, and it was probably well for his position that he did not, as his action in the matter was indefensible. For some months the condition of affairs was really serious, public meetings were held, resolutions adopted, angry feelings aroused and friends and associates divided. A Grand Jury in September, 1809, presented the Governor for his illegal action in pardoning John Whipple, who had been fined by the Supreme Court for an abusive attack on Judge Woodward, and about the same time, a petition was printed and circulated addressed to President Madison, praying him to remove the Governor.

The first decision of the Supreme Court was followed by others of like import, and the Governor gradually came to see that his position could not be maintained, and finally in September, 1810, although with great reluctance on the part of Judge Witherell, the acts declared

invalid were all repealed, and at least a semblance of harmony once more reigned.

The Governor and Judges had, since the fall of 1806, sat together in two entirely different capacities, one as the legislative body of the territory, the other as the Land Board to settle titles and dispose of lots in the City of Detroit. Upon both boards, until Judge Witherell came, Judge Woodward had been the dominating spirit. He prepared most of the legislative acts. It was his plan of Detroit that was adopted. Judge Griffin generally coincided with him, but after Witherell came it frequently occurred upon both boards that action upon important matters was prevented by an equal division of the members, Governor Hull and Judge Witherell always voting together against Judges Woodward and Griffin.

During nearly all the period of Hull's governorship there was apprehension in Detroit of danger from the Indians, which was more or less closely connected with the possibility of war with England. The affair of the Chesapeake occurred in June, 1807, and the British, who had a fort and Indian agency at Malden, at once began to cultivate more strongly the friendship of their former Indian allies, many of whom were located within the borders of Michigan, and even farther west, and visited Detroit on their way to and from their annual visits to Malden to receive their presents from the British.

For several years as the relations between Great Britain and America became strained or relaxed in intensity, the attitude of the Indians formed a quite accurate index to those relations.

In 1807, in view of the conditions, Governor Hull

decided that the erection of a stockade around the town of Detroit was a necessary protection, and partly by voluntary labor and partly by the use of militia, about fifty acres lying nearly equally north and south of Woodward Avenue and adjoining the river, was enclosed by pickets eighteen feet in length and driven six feet into the ground. The enforced use of the militia for this purpose was resented by the men. After a few months, the fear of the Indians wore away and in fact much of the alarm during all this time was pure hysteria, the horrors of Indian warfare stimulating the imagination and creating non-existing enemies.

During the succeeding years hopes alternated with fears that in the event of war with England the Indians would be neutral, and not hostile, and in February, 1810, Hull wrote a long letter to the Secretary of War, describing conditions in Canada and expressing the belief that in the event of war, as many of the Canadians were originally from the United States and not deeply attached to Great Britain, a proclamation from the President would secure at least their neutrality.

Except for the internal dissension the year 1810 passed quietly and after the governor withdrew from his untenable position in regard to legislation there were no further troubles of that character.

On January 9, 1811, the President reappointed Hull Governor of the Territory for three years and this time he was confirmed without opposition.

By this time matters with England began to look very dark and apprehension of trouble with the Indians increased. The battle of Tippecanoe, the increasing unrest, the ability of Tecumseh and his success in connec-

tion with his brother, the Prophet, in uniting with the Indians against further advances of the Americans, all combined to make the isolation of Detroit and the adjacent settlements a matter of serious moment. Governor Hull wrote frequently and urgently to the Secretary of War upon the importance of Detroit and the necessity of asistance, but neither the Secretary nor President Madison really appreciated the situation, or was fitted by temperament or ability to cope with war conditions.

In October of that year after receiving permission from the Secretary of State, Hull left for the East to spend the winter, and in February, 1812, went to Washington. The war with England was coming on. The country was entirely unprepared for war although the Republicans were clamorous for it. Party spirit was rampant and when the President in view of the threatening conditions appointed two major generals and five brigadier generals they were all from his own party and none had ever commanded a regiment in the face of the enemy. Hull, the last of the brigadiers to be named and therefore lowest in rank, was appointed April 3, 1812, and confirmed five days later by a vote of 19 to 10. He was then nearly 59 years old and after 26 years of retirement from army experience was disinclined to again take up its responsibilities and anxieties; he also knew the undefended condition around the Great Lakes and appreciated more than did the powers at Washington the extent to which the English had kept the interest and respect of the Indians. His late appointment was due to the fact that when it was first suggested to him, he declined it and Colonel Kingsbury, who had formerly been stationed at Detroit was appointed to take charge of the force, which

it was proposed to send to Detroit to protect, in the event of war, the American interests on the lakes. Kingsbury falling sick, and unable to act, the matter was again pressed on Hull, who finally agreed to accept, and the appointment was duly made.

In the preceding December, however, he had written to Eustis, the Secretary of War, stating at some length his experiences in the Revolutionary War, in the militia and as Governor of Michigan, his knowledge of Canada and of the Indians, his vigorous and healthy constitution and offered his services in any capacity in which they might be useful, and on March 6, while at Washington he wrote again to Eustis in considerable detail of the conditions at Detroit and what would be needed in order to take and retain Canada. His subsequent hesitation may have been due to his observing at Washington the unpreparedness and incompetency of the military authorities there.

The details of the campaign, the surrender of Detroit, and the court martial of Hull are too well known to need recounting. Public opinion was at first and for a long time strongly condemnatory. The government itself, however, and the chief army officials were greatly to blame in their conduct bearing on the Hull expedition. The facts are that Hull was not a traitor, as charged, in any respect. He was not used to independent command. Disuse of military service for 26 years, combined with his years, had lessened whatever military initiative and force he had ever possessed. The activity and success of General Brock, a really capable officer, disheartened him, but above all the presence of a large body of Indians, with all the possible consequences to his family

and the citizens of Detroit in the event of defeat unnerved him. During his entire governorship there had been frequent fears of Indian attacks. His correspondence with the War Department before the war shows that he was subject to exaggerated apprehensions on this subject, and the results of British success with his fears of the atrocities the Indians would commit overbore all other considerations, led him to overestimate the enemy strength, and underestimate his own.

After the surrender General Hull was sent as a prisoner of war to Montreal, arriving there the latter part of September, and was at once released on parole by Sir George Prevost. He had previously sent to the Secretary of War an account of the surrender and his explanation of the causes leading to it. Returning to his old home in Newton, he was formally exchanged in the winter following. In December the President who had been greatly shocked at the surrender of Detroit, ordered a court martial of General Hull, and the time of the trial was set for February 25, 1813, at Philadelphia, with Brigadier General Wade Hampton as President. This court, however, did not convene, as its members were all needed for active service in the war. In November, 1813, Prsident Madison called another court to meet in Albany, January 3, 1814, with Major General Henry Dearborn as President.

Regardless of all other matters involved in the question of Hull's conduct in the surrender of Detroit, the choice of General Dearborn to sit as the presiding officer of this tribunal was, to say the least, unfortunate, as his own conduct and his responsibility for many of the con-

ditions attending the entire Hull expedition and surrender were necessarily involved.

The Court Martial met at the time fixed, and continued in session until March 28, when they announced their decision, finding General Hull guilty of most of the charges, but not guilty of treason. At this date even the making of such a charge seems absurd and indicative of the deep prejudice then prevailing. The sentence of death which the court imposed was remitted by Madison, and General Hull, who had never resigned his governorship, which continued until the appointment of General Cass, October 29, 1813, retired to the home at Newton which he had, unfortunately for his fame, left nine years before.

His means were limited and his support during the remainder of his life was drawn chiefly from the farm on which he lived, and which had been given many years before to his wife by her father. Although it seems to have been clearly understood when he accepted the position of Commanding Officer of the Northwestern Army that he was to continue his office and salary as governor, and he did in fact exercise the duties of governor from his arrival at Detroit in 1812 until his surrender, the accounting officers at Washington refused to pay his salary as governor after April 10, 1812, the date of his commission as general. Efforts were made, but for a long time in vain, to obtain this much needed sum, and finally after his death Congress passed an act March 24, 1826, appropriating $1,628.32 to pay his salary from April 10, 1812, to February 1, 1813. Why this date was selected for the termination of his salary is uncertain, but it certainly was without any foundation in justice, and this was recognized by Congress, which two

years later on March 10, 1828, appropriated $1,380.00 to be in full of his claims against the United States. This, however, did not pay his salary up to the time of the appointment of Lewis Cass as his successor, October 29, 1813, and in 1831 and again in 1842 his daughter, Mrs. Hickman, petitioned Congress for the payment of the balance due. In each case a favorable report was made by the committee to which it was referred, but no further action was taken.

In 1824 he was able for the first time to procure from the War Department copies of letters and documents bearing upon the Detroit situation, and which he had asked for in vain at the time of his trial. With these in his possession he wrote a series of letters published in the "Boston Statesman," and later published in book form under the title "Memoirs of the Campaign of the Northwestern Army," intended to clear his memory in the minds of the people, and which had considerable influence upon public sentiment.

In June, 1825, Lafayette, while in America on a visit in Boston, called on General Hull, who had been a friend in Revolutionary days, and condoled with him upon the treatment he had received.

On November 25, 1825, he died at his home at the age of seventy-two.

His only son, Abraham Fuller, who had acted as his aide-de-camp at Detroit, was killed in the battle of Lundy's Lane, July 25, 1814, having been appointed a Captain in the army in 1811. Two of his daughters came with him to Detroit in 1805, and in April, 1808, one, Nancy, married Harris H. Hickman, a lawyer at Detroit, and later Collector of Customs at Mackinac.

His six daughters all married, one became the mother of Isaac McLellan, a poet of some reputation, his youngest daughter was the mother of Gen. Joseph Wheeler of Civil and Spanish war fame, another daughter was the mother of James Freeman Clarke, well known preacher and writer, and still another published the "Military and Civil Life of General Hull."

Governor Hull was a man of fair ability, rather credulous and easily influenced by those he trusted, but not a good judge of men, anxious to perform his duties faithfully but not well adapted by temperament or training to properly handle the frontier conditions and men he found at Detroit, warmly devoted to his family and on that account more apprehensive of Indian warfare. In more peaceful surroundings and favorable conditions he probably would have made a good executive, but he lacked force and initiative, and in the great crisis of his career was most unfortunate, first in the incompetency and ignorance of Washington officials, and second in his own lack of persistent, steady firmness of purpose.

William L. Jenks.

DOCUMENTS

DOCUMENTS

P. Hanks to Dearborn

Baltimore 27th January 1805

Sir

I received your favor of this 21st Inst notifying me that the President of the United States has been pleased to appoint me a Second Lieutenant in this Regiment of Artillerists in the services of the United States.

I with pleasure inform you Sir that I accept of said appointment.

Sir I have the Honour to
be with respect
Your Obt Hum Servt
P. Hanks

The Honble
Genl Dearborn
Secy of war

P. Hanks to Dearborn

Baltimore 21st March 1805

Sir

I have received an order from the Adjutant and Inspectors office to join my company at Detroit—I understand it is customary in those cases to advance three months pay—Should it be consistent I will thank you to direct the pay Mr to pay me for April May & June as I have a considerable distance to march

Sir I have the Honour
to be your Obt Hum. Servt
P. Hanks Lieut of Artillery

The Honble
Genl Dearborn
Secy of War

Hull to Dearborn

Newton 4th May 1805.

Dear Sir—

My arrangements are to be at the East part of Lake Erie about the middle, or say the 20th of June next—The Secretary of the Territory of Michigan and some of the other Officers will be there at the same time—I am informed there are in that Lake Public Vessels—It will be important that we should find a conveyance, so as to be at Detroit by the last of June, at which time the Government commences—Understanding the public Vessels in that Lake are under your direction, I address this

letter to you—The object is to request that one of the Vessels may be ordered to be at the Port on the East part of the Lake at the time mentioned—

If this application has been impropperly made, I will thank you to send it to the Secretary of the Navy or whoever has the direction of those vessels—

I am with very great
respect your
most Obedt Servt.
Wm Hull

Honble H. Dearborn Esqr.
Secretary of War.

N. B. If there are public Vessels on Lake Ontario, I wish they may be at a propper place to receive us, about the 12th June, as my arrangements are to go by water—

Hull to Dearborn

Albany 3d June 1805.

Dear Sir—

I have recd your letter enclosing an order on the Masters of the Public Vessels on Lake Erie to accomodate the officers of the Michigan Territory with a passage to Detroit—

You mentioned, that you thought it would be adviseable for Mr Griswold and myself to be at Detroit in the month of May—As the government does not take place untill the 1st of July, I had thought we should be in good time to be on the ground, a few days before that time—Perhaps it was in your mind, that the government was to take place the 1st of June—

I understand there are convenient public buildings, built for the officers of the Garrison, whose station has been there—That at present there are very few officers there—I would therefore suggest to you, whether it would not be propper that I should be accomodated, and if so, to request you to give the necessary directions on the subject—

If, Sir, in your department, I can be in any manner usefull to you, I beg you to call on me, with the most perfect confidence and freedom.

I am with the sincerest friendship,

Yours most affectionately

Genl Dearborn — Wm Hull

P. S. Mrs Hull, my son, & two of my daughters acompany me—

Hull to Dearborn

Sir— Detroit 19th Septr 1805.

I have received your letter by the mail, of the 23d of July—I intended, to have written to you by the former mail, but was then on a visit to the settlement on the River Raisin—I am extremely mortified in losing the opportunity of writing by the present mail—Before I received your letter and in fifteen minutes after the arrival of the mail carrier, he returned—

Inclosed is a speech of the Chiefs of the Wyandots at Sandusky, marked No. 4—The other papers, contain information respecting the conduct of Isaac Williams Junr—I have sent for all the Chiefs, in this part of the Country, who were parties to the Treaty at Swan Creek —I have given such an explanation and such advice, as I

believe will be satisfactory—It may be thought I have been officious in this business, as many of the Chiefs do not reside within the limits of this Territory—The Indians, residing on the borders of Lake Erie, Sandusky, and on the Miami, have been in the habit of considering the Superintendant at Detroit, as their Father—It is much more convenient to them than any other place, as they come entirely by water—As I had no other object but to quiet this business I am satisfied my conduct will be approved—Isaac Williams had done every thing in his power to inflame the minds of the Indians, but I believe unsucessfully. I am told, he is now endeavoring, to collect a number of the Chiefs to go with him to Washington—I have told them to pay no attention to him, and that the President will send for them, when he wishes to see them—the business of the indian department, I find arduous and difficult—great circumspection and primness are necessary. If in any way they obtain a promise favourable to them, they never forget it, untill it is performed, and they never forgive a breach of it—They will be satisfied with what you give if it is all which has been promised to them—

I believe they are convinced, it is for their interest to remain in peace & friendship with the U. S.—In all my conversations with the Chiefs I have endeavored to impress this truth on them—I think I have reason to be satisfied with my labour—I shall write you immediately in answer to your letter of the 23rd of July—

I am with very great respect your
most obedt Servt

Henry Dearborn Esqr
Secretary of War

William Hull

Address of Sandusky Indians

[Enclosure in Hull to Dearborn, Sept. 19]

We address you, father, that is in Detroit, your Children the Chiefs of upper & Lower Sandusky labour under great difficulties. the occasion of the difficulties we labour under is this. Isaac Williams junior is returned and laid before us papers, and the Chiefs find it difficult to Comply with his request. Father, the difficulties your children labour under, which is the occasion of Sending this message so soon is this; the said Isaac is trying to make or influence us to break the treaty which we have made and closed with our father the President in regard to selling our land—Father, the difficulty is his trying to make us break the treaty—When we were holding the treaty in order to sell our land, we thought on our Maker & looked to him for guidance, as he is the occasion of our peace & friendship--we would consider it a great Sin for us to act the hypocrite and break the treaty. we think the difficulty will be far greater if we neglect to send this Message—Father, the Chiefs are under difficulties—they are ignorant of the land Isaac Williams claims, some of the chiefs are dead and some of us are alive who he says gave him a right to the land he claims, but those of us who are alive know nothing about it—those chiefs who are dead never told us anything about it, while they lived. We desire our Father to call those persons away as soon as possible, as we perceive there will be great disturbance soon. We perceive this will make a disturbance between us and our father of the United States, and also between the different tribes of Indians.—Isaac Wil-

hams has sent to the Ottaways to meet in council at the lower Sandusky—Father, this is all we have to say to Our Father, at this present time to inform him of the irregularities of the traders at Sandusky.—
the lower Sandusky chiefs will address the Ottaways Secretly not to listen to what the Said William and traders there Shall say. this is all

Upper Sandusky July 26, 1805.

I Joseph Badger being requested wrote the above Speech for the Chiefs whose names & Marks are undersigned.

This Speech is to be communicated by Walk in the water & William Walker.

Hampton Varthull } Interpreters
Robt Armstrong }

The chiefs advised him formerly to be faithful to his office, as Intepreter; father do your best not to listen to what Isaac Williams says, for all that he is saying are Lies, to breed mischief about the Treaty, We never gave him any land. the reason of his making disturbance is to get the land, he is in debt and wants to pay the debt, by making us break the treaty we have just made, and give him the land. We never gave him any land; if our forefathers had given him land we should certainly had known of it—Father we remember one piece of land we gave to Isaac Williams and old Isaac Williams, which is Rockey point at the mouth of Sandusky bay but they would not have it and tore the writings to pieces and burnt them. they then asked for land on black river, We consented to give them as much land there as they would tend or improve only, but they never went to look

at it. Now, father we have acquainted you with what Isaac Williams Junr is about, and we give him up into your hands to take what steps with him you please; You know the laws of the United States and what punishment to inflict on trespassers—We desire our father to look into the character & conduct of the traders at the Sanduskies who act in the same way, making much disturbance by bad behavior among the Indians. It has been the request of our Father, the Agent of the United States to inform them of all irregular conduct of traders. We suppose they will obey you, as for us, if we say anything, they will not listen or mind us, they think we cannot turn them away. We complain of the following persons the disturbers of our peace.—Isaac Williams Junr—Isaac Williams Senr. and one Marshall, and Lewis Davaux.

We forgot at the treaty at Swan creek to mention one thing to our Father the President of the United States—our father promised us at Greenville treaty that he would send us an honest faithfullman, a blacksmith at the expence of the Government, we want one now to come who can do all kind of work from the gun to the hoe. our reason for requesting the fulfillment of the promise at Greenville is your children labour under great difficulty, there being no smith near us, and poor people cannot get any work done. Our Father also promised to appoint an honest trader to be with us that will not cheat us, and who will sell reasonable, we want such one sent on now to trade with us. We desire our Father at Detroit to send this our request to our father the President of the United States.

Rev. Joseph Badger to William Hull

[Enclosure in Hull to Dearborn, Sept. 19]

Lower Sandusky—July 30. 1805.

Having opportunity to Send directly by a son of Mrs Whitteker, I thought it would be proper to inform your Excellency of some late proceedings in this place. I arrived here from the Ouies Rapids last tuesday evening, was informed that Isaac Williams was here contriving some plan to break the late treaty at Swan Creek; I went to the village and preached the next day, on thursday proceeded to the upper town in the morning, was sent for by the Crane the head chief of the Wiandots; he shewed me papers which he received a few days before from said Williams, asked me if I would write for him, he wanted to send to his father at Detroit. I told him I would write whatever he would. about four o'clock he sent for me again & the two Interpreters, and he then delivered what is contained in the two letters which I suppose your Excellency has received, I had no time to transcribe or correct the Writing, had to sit on the floor and write on a stool mostly by Candle-light, they were closed & sent off by a woman next morning. On Saturday I preached to the Indians after wrote another lengthy speech for the Crane, in answer to Some proposals made to them by the Quakers to give them and the Delawares a thousand dollars worth of Goods of their own manufacture including building them a Mill which proposals they in their answer accepted; preached to them twice on the Sabbath, most of them heard very attentively, in time of intermission I made a speech to

the Chiefs on having a Minister reside with them, and a school to instruct their children to read in the english language—four years past next September I made the first speech to them on the Subject of receiving the Gospel they ever had, they have from that time waived giving a direct answer till now, they have given their full consent to have a Minister reside with them and have a school to teach their children. their reasons for not accepting the offer before are in these words "we were So bad, we were afraid to have a Minister live with us, we were all drunkards So that he would not preach to us but a few times and we were afraid Some of our young men when intoxicated would Stagger to his house hooping & Yaling So as to put him in fear, and make him uncomfortable. but now we are determined to quit drinking alltogether."—There is no difficulty now in the Way, on the part of the Wyandots of having the Gospel Staiedly amongst them, and also a school for their children, if a grant of a piece of the reserved land can be made by Congress to the Missionary who would Setle here. I returned to this place last evening, found the Indians Collecting; one of them had Stabbed a valuable horse of Mrs Whitteker in the Shoulder badly; the man, Ogoure, whom Williams Sent to Collect the Ottaways went to the little bear their h[e]ad Chief, who refusing to Comply with the request, he fell upon him and Killed him. Said Williams Keeps at one Marshall nearly opposite to Mrs Whitteker—The rabble of those who have escaped their Creditors, or are here to make Something out of the Indians are the greatest disadvantage to these people, and I may Say with propriety

the greatest Curse. by them, as far as I have Seen, and learnt from others, the natives have examples of every vice, drunkness, lewdness, Gambling, the most blasphemous profanity, &c &c if this Set of people Could be driven from this place, and from the upper town it would be one of the most benevolent act ever done for the Indians in these places—I hope your Excellency will excuse me with troubling you with So broken a piece of information.—Please to accept my best wishes for the health & prosperity of yourself & family.

Your Excellency's humble Servant

(Signed) Joseph Badger

William Hull to Rev. Joseph Badger

[Enclosure in Hull to Dearborn, Sept. 19]

Detroit 7th august 1805.

Sir

I have received your letter of the 30th of July by a son of Mrs Whitteker—likewise I have received two letters of the 26th signed by the Crane & other chiefs. I thank you and them for the attention and the information they contain. every subject mentioned in the letters shall receive my attention, and faithfully communicated to the President of the U. S.—You will please to present my friendly regards to the Crane and the others, and inform them that the great Spirit will never look with approbation on them, if they listen to wicked people, who advise them to break their faith and their solemn treaties—That their Great Father the President of the

U. S. always preserve the most inviolable good faith with them, and he expects the same on their part—Their conduct hither to and their late communications to me justify the expectation of their future fidelity. But they must remember, Every Individual of them, that if they lisen to the Council of Wicked men who have no other motive but their own interest, and whose situation in life renders it impossible for them to do them any good, they will insur the displeasure of their *great father* the President of the U. S.

Yesterday I held a councill with a number of the chiefs of the Wyandots;—there had appeared to be uneasiness with them The treaty was read and explained to them. At the close of the councill they expressed unanimously their entire satisfaction.* I am with very great respect & regard your most obedt Servt—

(Signed) William Hull

Revd Joseph Badger—

Mrs Whitteker's case shall be particularly communicated to the President, and attended to.

*I rejoice that My Children at Sandusky have consented to receive a Minister of the Gospel to point out to them the way to eternal happiness and a school Master to teach & instruct their Children.

Rev. Joseph Badger to William Hull

[Enclosure in Hull to Dearborn, Sept. 19]

Lower Sandusky August 20, 1805

Sir

Yours of the seventh of august come duly to hand for which I most cordially thank Your Excellency; the whole was Communicated to the Chiefs at the upper town, last

Friday the 16th at which time I received from the Crane, the other Chiefs being present the speech accompanying this letter, by Mrs Elizabeth Whitaker.

The Chiefs expressed themselves well pleased with your observations and from what I can learn by Conversation with them or from any other quarter they are determined to abide faithfully by their agreement with the U. S. The request they have made to the President respecting the reserve in this place is highly interesting to them. if the Government retain that little particle of ground, Survey & Sell it out to Such People as are living on indian land in these parts, and Such ones only will be fond of living so remote from society, it will materially injure this nation by breaking them up in a great measure as to their living to gether and be one of the most fatal blows to the missionary cause among them. the herd of frenchmen & others now living here are filing them with mischief and keeping them in almost constant confusion. The proposals of the Chiefs to the President of the U. S. was very unexpected; I suggested the idea to them of proposing an exchange with the Government and to give land adjoining to some part of the settlements, but they said in their answer they would not do this without the consent of other nations; but as they had sold their father so much land lately, at so low a price, they would make of their father one request which is given in their speech, and which they wish your excellency to communicate to the President of the United States.

if their request is granted, I shall propose to the Missionary Society a plan for setting up a School in this

place to take as many Indian Children as we can get, and board them, lodge them & clothe them in part, if not in whole while they Continue in School, not confining the privilege to this nation but to any Indian Children that will come.

They have sent a duplicate of their Speech to the Synod of Pittsburg which is composed of about forty ministers who have formed in to a Missionary Society for propagating the Gospel in new settlements and among the Indians to be accompanied with their petition in behalf of their request; and also a duplicate of their speech to the Missionary Society of Connecticut for the same purpose.

The encouraging prospect both here and the upper town induced me to tarry two weeks longer than my appointment and untill the other Missionary Revd John Anderson arrived, who is now here. Expect by the leave of providence to set out to morrow morning to visit my family.—That the administration of your Excellency may be prosperous and yourself and family enjoy the blessings of a Kind providence shall be the prayer of

your most obedt Humb Servt
Joseph Badger

Speech of the Indians at Sandusky

[Enclosure in Hull to Dearborn, Sept. 19]

A Speech from the Chieafs

Father lisen we think it proper to inform you of a certain person by the name of Isaac Williams he is a

making disturbance in the place with us indians he wishes to brake the treaty that we had at swan Creek. . . Father we wish you to see into this business as this Isaac Williams will breed disturbance betwixt the united states and us indians or betwixt us diverent nations of indians this Isaac Williams is a going to Philidelphia in and since taken a few of the indians in with him of the [taway?] and winedots we therefore wish you not to lissen to any thing that they say but to send the indians back again and take this Isaac Williams and Just do with him what you please Father we have sent two speeches in before one by the govinor at Detroit and one by Joseph Badger the minister in New Cunnecticut but we [send] this one by a white boy the name of Robert Armstrong a prisoner we have had among us so that this speech may get in before this Isaac Williams and indians so that you may [know] what business they are upon Father we head Chieafs of the winedots at Sandusky have put this speech into this boys hands as we know him to be Just and true and it is our request of him to see into this business and it is to your intrust as wall as ourn.

the head Chieafs
the Crane or Tarhee
" Crow or Roneniarah
" Cherokee or Harronenu
stooky or Rashsharrah
Robert Armstrong the interpreter

This speech is wrote by Miss Anne Whitaker at Sandusky by the request of the Chieafs.

Sandusky 4th September 1805

William Hull's Answer to the Sandusky Indians

[Enclosure in Hull to Dearborn, Sept. 19]

To the head chiefs of the Wyandots at the Sandusky Villages — Detroit 11. Septber 1805.

My Children—

I have received your speech by Mrs Whitaker—I thank you for it.—To the many marks of friendship you have before given to the United States, this is an additional one—It is your duty and will be for your interest and happiness to give all information interesting to the Country—A kind providence has placed us together in this pleasant land—the same genial sun rises to light us and warm our fields—The same fruitfull earth supplies our wants, and the same great and good Spirit protects us in all our ways. We should therefore consider ourselves as one family and do all the good we can to each other.—Fortunate for you your great father who sits round the seventeen great fires, is your friend.—In himself he is just, and he has the power and disposition to compel others to do justice.—I pledge myself to you he will do you all the good in his power, and will never suffer an act of injustice to you, or any of your people, to pass unredressed. Whenever therefore you receive an injury, all you have to do, is to make a representation of it;—In your speech, you say Isaac Williams is making disturbance among you and wishes you to break the Treaty made at Swan Creek; no good man can approve of such conduct. If he has received injuries, he does not take the proper measures for redress. Why

does he not represent them to the only authority which has the power and the disposition to do him justice.—Isaac Williams is as much entitled to justice as any man, and if he pursues the proper course he will be sure of obtaining it: But disappointment and ruin will attend his present measures.—Heretofore, I am told, Isaac Williams has been a good man, he has done many friendly acts to the United States, and that he possesses testimonials of his meritorious services. What motives can induce him thus to ruin his character and forfeit his claim on the justice or generosity of the Country?—As you regard yourselves and your future comfort, and happiness, listen not to his evil councils, it will lead you in the path, he is travelling, to ruin, distress & misery. Those who expect *justice*, must be just themselves; we cannot be just, if we refuse to fulfill our engagements. You have told me and all the Chiefs have told me, the treaty at Swan Creek was fair & just on the part of the United States, that no undue measures were taken to obtain it, that it was perfectly understood, and the Sale was made with the entire consent and approbation of all the chiefs.—Isaac Williams is now endeavoring to induce you to violate the treaty and to bring on you the guilt of perfidy and infidelity. Your native sense of justice, your own honor, will not suffer you to listen to such evil advice; persevere then in the path of justice, and resist with manly firmness every attempt to lead you astray.

That the Great & good Spirit may ever protect and defend you, that you may live in peace & friendship with each other that you may be just yourselves and receive justice from others, that you may improve in knowledge,

in virtue and religion, indeed that you may be happy here and prepare for an endless state of felicity hereafter, is my most sincere & fervent prayer.

With the most friendly sentiment of respect,

I am &c &c

(Signed) William Hull

Hull to Dearborn

Sir— Detroit 22d Septr 1805.

In answer to your letter of the 23d of July, which was only received a few days since, I would observe that your opinion is correct, that the conflagration at Detroit, has placed the officers of the Government, and the Citizens generally in a very unpleasant situation—

We have indeavored to improve the arrangement of the Town, as to the width of the Streets, and have selected Sites for the public buildings, which we supposed most suitable—

There is an abundance of Clay, suitable for brick, in many places about Detroit, but not of so good a quality, as on the River Rouge *which* has as yet been discovered—

Under the Idea that the disposal of the public lands in this Territory, was under the direction of the Secretary of the Treasury, I have detailed to him & the Secretary of State, the measure, we had thought necessary to adopt respecting the Town—To those Letters, I have received no reply—Lots well situated of one hundred feet Square have been sold as high as six hundred Dollars—

We have many applications, but we sell only to those, who have occasion to build this season, and make ex-

changes to extinguish the rights in the old Town for the purpose of Streets &c—About thirty Houses have allready been built on a regular plan, and not more than four or five in the old Town between the fort & the River —I will endeavor to prevent any others from being erected, in order that an Open space may be left, if you think it expedient—

With respect to Mr Belknap, I have not the pleasure of knowing him—He was here several weeks after my arrival, lodged on the other side of the River, and at a house which I understood is not very reputable—during the time he did not call on me,—I frequently suggested to those acquainted with him my desire to see him, before he proceeded on his Voyage—

From the manner, he conducted here, I was not favourably impressed with his character—I have heard suggestions unfavorable to him in point of Sobriety—I know nothing of my own knowledge and it is possible the accounts I received were from his Enimies—Mr Munroe the former factor here, is very much respected, and has many friends—His removal from office was a mortification to them—Perhaps that circumstance may have created prejudice—The Secretary, Mr. G. who was formerly acquainted with him, speaks more favourably of him, than any other Person—

It is my present intention to visit the States, as soon this autumn, as the military reviews are completed—An ardent and very meritorious military spirit appears to prevail, and I hope to be able to make a respectable Militia—

This Journey, tho' very disagreeable, seems to be rendered necessary by the unsettled situation of my private

affairs, and more so by the Public Interest of the Territory—The Titles to property must be definitely settled, and the lands opened for Sale, on such terms as to invite Settlers, or nothing can be done, to promote the honor or Interest of the Country—

I am very much satisfied with the Country, and the disposition of the people—Everything has progressed, more favourably than I expected—The most perfect harmony subsists among the officers of the government, likewise with the military officers, and with the people—Capt Dison is a very valuable officer, and would be an ornament to any Army—He is perfectly regular in his conduct, & attentive to his duty—

I am with very great respect,

H. Dearborn Esqr
Secretary of War.

Your most obedt servt
William Hull

Hull to Dearborn

Dear Sir— Detroit 29th Sept 1805.

Inclosed is one of Isaac Williams circulars, which has lately come to my hands—

I have taken all suitable means, to counteract his views, and I do not learn that any of the Indians are disposed to listen to him—

About the middle of October, I propose to leave this for the States—A most laudable military Spirit prevails, and next week, the general reviews will take place—

A number of Companies, have procured, & are procuring Uniforms; The officers are daily exercising; and I hope when I see you to be able to give you a pleasing

account of the Militia of the Territory—

I am your most obedt Servt

Genl Dearborn. WILLIAM HULL.

CHITTA TO WALK-IN-THE-WATER

[Enclosure in Hull to Dearborn, Sept. 29]

To Walk in the water Sanduskey. 6th Augut 1805

Friend.

Listen, First I will thank the great spirit, he that is in heaven, and who made the world for all nations; but it was his good will to place us brown people, in these parts of his works. I have called you friend, but to speak the truth we are brethern, because we are one flesh and blood.

I have said, that I will thank the great spirit for the great love and care he has showed to my life and health; it is also my prayer for you and all the Chiefs and youngmen, that the great spirit would show his love and goodness to you all—In meantime I salute you and all the Chiefs, together with the youngmen, from my heart.

Listen to me my relation, and believe to the words I shall now speak in writing, for I speak in the presence of our Great Spirit. If I lie, it will displease him.—for I am resolved to stand and take my countrymen's parts to bring things (which has been done wrong at the late treaty) to rights—

My relation be strong, my heart is right to do you all justice; I am able to do it, for I trust in the great spirit who made us. Let us hold up our heads and speak unto the Americans, as men—and let them know that we are

yet able to discover when they wrong us out of our lands. I do not wish that any of you should misunderstand my counsel, I am for good work and wishing to see my relations well satisfied and I also wish to be well satisfied—Altho my heart is good towards the Bostonians, but I will not stop my mouth to speak the truth, when I see they begin to play tricks upon me and blind your eyes—for this they have certainly done when they bought our lands at the late treaty—They have not acted as men, they have not done us justice; they promised me that they would pay six cents per Acre, but I find from my examination that they have not paid two cents.—Instead of allowing the Wyandots two thousand dollars every year they have only allowed one thousand—And instead of allowing the Ottawas and other tribes thirty thousand dollars they have only allowed six-teen thousand, six hundred and sixty six dollars.—Be strong my relation, join your hearts and minds with me and let us shew ourselves as wise men, but not as fools. I pray to the great spirit to incline our hearts to take good care of the land which he has given us.—I wish to hear from you soon—for it must not be delayed I wish also that all the chiefs would give one voice with you—

CHITTA

We are to have a talk soon upon that head in this place and therefore I would be glad to know your minds—

[Enclosure in Hull to Dearborn, Sept. 29]

West Line of Suffens Land is a North & South line parallel with the west line of the State of Pensylvania & exactly one hundred & twenty miles distant from said

Pensylvania line as claimed by that State, runing from the Shore of Lake Erie southerly to the forty first Degree of North Latitude, & the east line is parallel with the west line of said Suffens Land & so far distant therefrom as to include between said lines 500,000 acres of Land—

Hull to Dearborn

Dear Sir— Buffaloe Creek 28th Octobr 1805

After many perils, I arrived here in the Contractor, three days ago—I set out in the adams, and for three days was on the Lake in one of the most violent gales ever known—After the gale abated, finding the vessel defective in many parts, Capt Brevort thought it not safe to proceed, & we returned—Preparations are making to give her a thorough repair, which is indispensibly necessary—

In my other letters, I have given you all the information, I have been able to collect respecting the conduct of Isaac Williams—I am informed, he is still prosecuting his design of collecting a number of Chiefs to go with him to Washington—Little or nothing I believe is to be apprehended from him—

There is a subject of much more consiquence, which you have probably been made acquainted with from various quarters—

The first part of this summer, & indeed to the present time, the Western Indians on the Mississippi &c have been sending constant messages, and even deputations, to the Chippaways, Ottawas, Pottawatamies, Shawnese, &c &c stating that the People of the U. S. are their

natural Enemies, and that their object is their total exterpation—That they ought to make it a common cause, and immediately make war—The answer, which these Nations has given is, that when they were at war with the U. S. they invited their assistance; That they then refused, and peace was made with the U. S. and the hatchet was buried—That they were now satisfied, as the U. S. treated them with friendship and Justice—Altho' I believe neither the english Government, or the officers here high in command would give any countenance to a measure of this kind; yet there are many individuals, who have great influence with the Indians, would give encouragement to it—By a pursuance of the same prudent measures, which have heretofore been adopted, I believe no difficulties will arise—

When I have the pleasure of seeing, I will give you all the information, I possess on the subject of Indian Affairs. I shall proceed on my journey tomorrow morning—

I am with very great respect your most

H. Dearborn Esqr
Secretary at War.

Obedt Servt
William Hull

Hull to Dearborn

Governor Hull has the honor to inclose to the Secretary of War, a copy of a general Order, and an Official letter founded thereon, which he has brought on with him from Michigan, and which will require the general Government to act on as soon as it may be convenient.

Secretary of War. Washington Decembr 10th 1805

General Orders

[Enclosure in Hull to Dearborn, Dec. 10]

Head Quarters at Detroit
9th October 1805

General Orders

The two Companies commanded by George Cotterell Esq. & Lewis Campau Esq. are detached from the first Regiment They will be divided so as to form four Companies, which four Companies will be formed into a Battalion to be commanded by a Lieutenant Colonel & one Major.—George Cotterell Esq. is appointed Lieutenant Colonel & Lewis Campau Esq. Major. According to a Law concerning the Militia of the Territory of Michigan the Commander in Chief has thought proper to make the following arrangements.—The first Regiment & the Legionary Corps will form a Brigade to be considered as the first Brigade. The Second Regiment Lieutenant Colonel Cotterell's Battilion & Lieutenant Colonel Duncan's Corps will form the Second Brigade.—The two Brigades are hereby formed into a Division.

I certify the above to be a true Copy of the Records in my possession.

James May
Adjutant Genl
Militia

Hull to Dearborn

[Enclosure in Hull to Dearborn, Dec. 10]

Headquarters at Detroit
10th Octobr 1805.

Sir—

The Militia of the Territory of Michigan at present consists of twenty Six Companies. On Regt is formed at and near Detroit consisting of eight Companies, commanded by Colo Augustus B. Woodward, who is the Senior military Officer in the Territory, and is numbered, the 1st Regt—One other Regt is formed in the district of Erie, consisting of eight Companies, and is commanded by Colo John Anderson, which is numbered the 2d Regt—A legionary Corps is formed from the 1st Regt by voluntary inlistment, consisting of one company of Cavalry, one of Artillery, one of light Infantry and one of riflemen,—commanded by Lieut Colo Brush—A Battallion of Infantry is formed in that part of the district of Huron, which lies on Lake St Clair, the River St Clair, and Lake Huron, consisting of four Companies, and is commanded by Lieut Colo Cotterell—An independent Corps of Infantry, is formed in the district of Michilimackinack, consisting of two Companies of Infantry, and is commanded by Lieut Colo Dunkin the Collector of the Port—

By a general Order, a Copy of which I have the honor to inclose, you will perceive, I have formed the several Regiments & Corps, into two Brigades, and the two Brigades into a division—

From the best estimate I can at present make, not hav-

ing received accurate returns—

The 1st Regt consists of	490
The 2d	289
The legionary Corps	256
Cotterells Battallion	210
Dunkins independt Corps	80
	1316

You will reccolect, Sir, by the Ordinance of Congress, my powers extend to the appointment of officers of no higher grade, than field officers. The appointment of the general officers appertains exclusively to the general government. The organization being carried as far as my powers extend, it remains for the federal government to render it complete.

I have the honor to be with assurances
of most perfect consideration,
Your most obedt Servt
William Hull

H. Dearborn Esqr
Secretary of War.

War Department Order

417.

Sir, War Dept Jan 15, 1806.

Asst Mil. Agt Detroit 418

You will please to deliver Governor Hull, when received, the Brass 4 pounders with their Carriage and apparatus, also sixty two pairs of Horsmens' Pistols, and sixty two Horsemen's swords, the former for the

tempory use of the Artillery Company of Militia, and the latter for the like use of the Militia Cavalry at Detroit—You will please also to deliver, when received, to the respective Captains of Militia, under the direction of Governor Hull, five hundred stands of Muskets with Bayonets, and an equal number of catridge Boxes and belts, taking receipts from them therefore; in which receipts each Captain must engage to be accountable for the Arms &c received by him and to return them in good repair when required—Similar receipts should be taken for the field pieces Swords, pistols &c—

Orders have been given for the transportation of the above articles to Detroit, early next Spring.—

I am &c &c—

War Department Order

War Deptmt Jan 28, 1806

Asst Mil Agt—
Detroit
427
417

Sir, you will please to deliver the Rifles belonging to the United States, at Detroit, to Governor Hull, and take his receipt for the same stating whether in good repair or not.—You will also, when received, deliver him seventeen others to be receipted for by him in like manner.

I am very resp—&c—

War Department Order

War Deptmt. Feby 27, 1806

Sir,

Asst Mill Agent
Detroit
418

Finding from the General Return of Military stores that a sufficient number of muskets with bayonets and accoutrements are now at Detroit, for the purpose contemplated in my order upon you of the 15th ult. (and which was committed to the care of Governor Hull) you will please to make the delivery from those at present in store, in the manner mentioned in said order.

I am, very resp—Sir,
&c &c

War Department Order

War Deptmt. Ap. 7. 1806.

Sir,

448.°
Saml. T. Dyson
357

Your letter of the 10th of Febuary last, enclosing Lieut Brevoort's statement of freight made by U. S. Brig Adams for 1805, has been received.—

I am very resp—&c &c—

War Department Order

War Department Sept 1. 1806

Sir

Henry B. Brevoort
194

Complaints having been made from the Treasury Department, that the United States vessels on the Lakes, frequently transport private dutiable goods, you will, in future, without the smallest deviation, make such entries, and take such clearances, at the Custom houses, at Detroit and Michilimackinac, as shall effectually disclose every Article of private property on board your vessel; and comply strictly with such rules and usages, as the Collectors may acquire.

You will, regularly, enter and clear your vessel, every trip, whether you have any private property on board or not; and, at all times, make such manifests as the case may require. You will carefully avoid giving any countenance to the transportation of any dutiable property, belonging to individuals, either Citizens or foreigners, as any such act will be considered as highly reprehensible.

I am &c

War Department Order

War Department Oct 9. 1806

Sir,

70.0
Peter Gansevoort
Junior
87
D H.

Whenever the Collector of the Port of New York shall transmit you a Trunk of books, by order of the Department of State, intended for the Governor of Michigan Territory, you will please forward it, by the first convenient opportunity, to its place of destination.—

I am &c.

War Department Order

War Department Oct. 13, 1806.

Sir,

Samuel T. Dyson
79.

Your letter of the 12. ultimo is now before me. Judge Woodward by reference to the new plan of the town of Detroit will be able to explain to you the intentions of the President of the United States relative to the public grounds mentioned in my letter of the 8. of May last.

The building in the Ship yard were not, I presume intended to be given up; and I would not wish that possession of them should be yielded until there shall have been sufficient time to erect a brick Store, at or near the Landing on the square re-

tained near the water for Military purposes. A Brick store of suitable dimensions ought to be built next year.

I am &C,

War Department Order

War Department Oct. 24, 1806

Sir,

Samuel T. Dyson
224.
70.

Your letter of the 2d inst enclosing a Statement of Provisions on hand at Detroit has been duly received.—You ought to make an explicit requisition on the Contractors Agent for suitable deposits of rations.—

There never ought to be less than forty days intire rations on hand, at any season of the year; and not less than three months, in winter.

I am &c

Stanley Griswold to Henry Dearborn

Detroit, 19. Dec. 1806.

Sir,

Governor Hull has Shewn me a representation, or memorial, designed to be transmitted to Congress, requesting an appropriation for defraying the expence of building certain Stockades in this Territory the last Spring. I cordially concur with him in wishing the appropriation

to be made.—Yet it is a duty I owe to myself to inform you, that my intention and that of the citizens was, that the Stockades should cost little or no money, either to the Territory or to the United States. They were to be built by the labor of the citizens equally distributed;— and accordingly detachments were successively called out on this business from day to day until the Governor's return in June. Soon after he arrived, he thought proper to countermand this arrangement, dismissed the laborers then at work, and made a contract with an individual to finish the work at Detroit.—I expected that difficulties would arise from this proceeding,—and it has so turned out. So much money has been expended on Judge Woodward's visionary plan of the city of Detroit, as well as other objects, that cash cannot be raised to fulfil the Governor's contract, and the legislative Board, I believe, refuse to appropriate for it. It is thought, that it is a proper charge upon the United States.—At any rate, the Governor will meet with great difficulty, unless Congress make the appropriation requested.

Defensive works of the kind now erected are certainly necessary on these frontiers. Without them, our families are quite at the mercy of the savages, should they ever be stirred against us.—It was unfortunate, that the people were not suffered to build them by their own labor. But in the present state of the business, I hope the memorial will succeed.

I have the honor to be,
Sir, with great respect,
Your most obedt servant,
STANLEY GRISWOLD.

Hon. H. Dearborn.

Cap. J. Whistler to Henry Dearborn

Sir Fort Dearborn 6th Jany 1807

On the 11th of November last I left this fort, having leave of absence from Col Burback for a few weeks to visit Detroit & I took Fort Wayne in my rout, for the purpose of seeing the Contractor Agent ther as he is impowered to furnish this post, with the article of meat, —At the time I left here there was not more than was suffient for two months Issues of that article on hand, this was the occasion of my making Fort Wayne in my rout, on my arrival ther which was on the twenty first of novemr I informed the agent, of the situation of this post as wanting the articl of meat in particular, he replyed it was not in his power to remedy the evil accept with a few poor Beeves, ninteen in number these were sent in Dec. and arrived here in the latter part of that month I made Fort Wayne in my rout on my return purposely to gain infermation looking for better success the said agent informed me that it was not in his power to make a purchase as his bills in favour of the Contractor were protested, and the people would not sell there property without some other means than his bills, he also informed me, he was not able to Furnish Fort Wayne or this post, Capt Whipple also informed me he was under the necessity himself of procuring some Hogs (that happened therabout) for the use of his Garrison as the agent could not supply it—These circumstances were alarming to me as being in so remoat a part of world where little could be purchased I informed the agent, I should be under the necessity of purchasing that

article on my arrival at Fort Dearborn if to be had there —on my arrival I found by making a survey of what meat was in store including the ninteen head already mentioned there was not a suffient quantity for three months Issues finding no hoaps of a further suply, I made inquiry and found a small quanty of hock for sail I made a purchase of it on as reasonable terms as posiable, for which I inclose the acct with my Certificate annexed therto hoaping you will acknowledge it as suffient for discharging the acct in favor of the person of whom I made the purchase, I am Ignorant of the manner in which I aught to draw for the payments of such purchase, but finding myself under the necessity of acting under the 3d and [?], article of your agreement with Olivre Phelps Esqr of the 6th June 1806 I mad the purchase and that being not suffient I have entered into an agreement with a man that happined here from Staunton for Beef, a Copy of which I have taken the liberty also to inclose this last I hoap will be a suffient quanty with what is already on hand for six months commencing the first instant,— I am happy to find that the Contractor is gainer for what he looses on the first purchase, he gains much more on the latter—

Sir
I have the Honor to be
your most Obt & Humb
J Whistler Capt

The Honorable Henry Dearborn
Secretary of War

N. B. I have given a draught to the person whom I mad the purchase from—but whether it is in form or not I am not a judge— J Whistler Capt

Articles of Agreement Between Cap. John Whistler and Bennett Langley

[Enclosure in Whistler to Dearborn, Jan. 6]

Articles of Agreement Made at Fort Dearborn the 5th day of January 1807, Between John Whistler Captain Commanding Said Fort in the Service of the United States of the one Part, and Bennett Langley of Staunton, State of Ohio of the other Part.—

This agreement witnessith that the Said John Whistler, for and behalf of the United States, and said Bennett Langley for himself have mutually agreed with each other as follows Viz—

First, That the Said Bennett Langley Shall deliver Eight thousand nine hundred and Fifty pounds of good and Merchantable Beef, on or Before the first day of March next, to the Said John Whistler at Fort Dearborn for the Use of the Troops therein stationed, at four Cents, five Mills pr pound; and the fifth quarter as Usually Called, Shall be given in with the Beef— —

But the Said Bennett Langley is to be at no expence in Killing or Salting the Said Beef.— —

Second, That the Said John Whistler, Shall inclose Said Bennett Langleys account when rendred, for the Quantity of Beef Delivered (together with Said John Whistler's certificate, that the Said Quantity of Beef was received) to the Secretary of War for payment—

A copy of this article of agreement is to be handed to the Contractors agent at Fort Wayne pr Express, in Company with Said Bennett Langley from this Post,

and Should the said agent there be Collecting or have on hand Beef Cattle or Hoggs for this Post to the Amount of the quantity Contracted for in the aforesaid agreement, then the Said agreement to be a void, but otherwise to be in full Force, and Under the Penalty of one Thousand Dollars for the failour thereof—

In Witness whereof we do fix our hand & Seals in the date and year above mentioned—

B. W. Langley (Seal)
J. Whistler Capt (Seal)

In Witness of
Wm Whistler
[?]

Capt. Samuel T. Dyson to Henry Dearborn

Sir Fort Detroit Jany 8th 1807

I have the honor to enclose you Lieut Brevoorts statement of the Freights of the U. States Brig Adams for the year 1806—This Gentleman will leave this for the City of Washington on or about the 11th Inst. when I shall beg leave to make a communication respecting the mititary reserve, contemplated by the Governor & Judges of M. Territory at this post.

I have the honor to be
Sir
With Respect
Your obdt Servt

Saml. T. Dyson
Capt of A Comdg

Henry Dearborn Esqr
Secy of War

Lieut. H. B. Brevoort to Capt. S. T. Dyson

[Enclosure in Dyson to Dearborn, Jan. 8]

Sir

The following is a Statement of the freights, Public & Private carried in 1806, on board the Adams,

Amount of Public freight	1862	92
Amt carried for Govr Wm Hull	221	17
Do carried by the Contractor	66	75
Total Amount for the U. States	2150	84
Amt of Private freight	407	2. ¾
Amt of return freight paid the contractor for Govr Wm Hull	66	75
	340	27.¾
Amt of contingentcies during the Season	173	70.
Amt of Private freights. Total	166	57.¾
Total Amt. of Public & Private freights	2317	41.¾
Amt of the Crew's pay, as per Military Agents Rolls	1709	3
Balance in the Ships favour, [E. E?]	608	38.¾

I remain Sir, Respectfully
Your Obt & Most Hbe Servt
H. B. Brevoort, Lt
Comdg. the Adams

Captn S. T Dyson—
Comdg—Ft Detroit—

SAMUEL T. DYSON TO GEN. HENRY DEARBORN

Fort Detroit
Sir Janý 11th 1807

I am under the necessity of again drawing on you in favor of Henry B. Brevoort for three hundred & thirty eight dollars & thirty four cents on account of the Contractors for a further purchase of Pork for the Use of the Troops under my command which I hope will be paid

On Reference to the Map for the new Town of Detroit the square contemplated to be reserved for military purposes, lays mostly in the water. of course it can be of little use. Lieut Brevoort can explain the situation in person much better than I can with my pen. Therefore I beg leave to refer you to him for such information as you may deem necessary on the subject

I have the Honor to
be Sir
With Much Respect
Your Obedt Servt
SAML T. DYSON
Capt Comdg

HULL TO DEARBORN

Detroit 30th Jany 1807.

Sir—

It was my intention by this mail to have sent on my account up to the 1st day of Jany instant; but I find it

impossible to complete it, so as to have it ready in time—

By the next mail, I shall send it, and account for all the money I have received, & drawn for—

I am respectfully, your most
Obedt Servt
WILLIAM HULL

Honble H Dearborn
Secretary of War.

ARTICLES FOR THE INDIAN DEPARTMENT

Dear Sir— Detroit 17th Febry 1807.

Inclosed is a memorandum of Articles wanted for the Indian department—I have [drawn] a bill on the Secretary of War for three hundred Dollars to pay for them—If it is not sufficient, you may draw on me for the balance—I wish them to be packed in the best manner, and sent on by the first conveyance

I am etc
WM HULL

N. B. I beg your attention to purchase the articles *as low as possible*—

Memorandum &c.

One ton of bar Iron.
200 lbs. suitable for axes & hatchets.
100 lbs. suitable for hoes—
400. lbs. suitable for plough Irons & harrows
400 lbs. German steel—
3. whip saws—
3. Cross-cutt saws—

4 Doz. hoes—
4 Doz. axes—
4 Doz. hatchets.
500 lbs. Tobacco, screened & pressed, suitable for Indians.
½ Doz. spades
½ Doz. shovels—
2. Doz. scythes—
A small box files & 4 rasps
2. smallest kind of screw plates for locks.
1 Barrel, linset oil in a strong tight cask.
100 lbs. white lead.
100 lbs. putty.
A Doz. small spinning wheels—
Glass—I do not find what quantity I sent for—

I do not pledge myself, that this is correct.—It is however the only copy, I find among my papers—

Memorandum of the persons employed in the Indian department—

George Johnson, Blacksmith at Detroit, $30 Dollars a month, a year,	$360
Calvin Munson, Carpenter,—ditto.....ditto.....	360
Joseph André Clark, Armourer, ditto—ditto.....	360
David Handerson, Blacksmith, on River St Clair, @ $30 a month	360
Mrs Handerson, to teach the Indian women the domestic arts @ $6	72
Jacob Fisher Esqr To teach & assist the Indians in Agriculture at 30 Dollars per month.....	$360
William Walker, Interpreter for the Wyandots,	

Delawares, Munices, &c by special contract $150 a year & no rations	150
Whitmore Knaggs, salary one dollar a day, rations, house rent, firewood, as Interpreter to all the other nations—all of which is paid in money, amounts to, about	650
	$2672

N.B. Whitmore Knaggs 3 Rations a day.
Walker none—
All the other men, one & an half—
Mrs Handerson, one—

Hull to Dearborn

Detroit, 20th Feb. 1807.

Sir,

You will perceive in my account made up to the 1st January last, I have charged nothing for the expense of building a Council house for the Indian Department—

I had early on my arrival, the last spring, reserved a valuable piece of public ground, for that purpose, and also for building a Blacksmiths and Carpenters Shops—The two latter are built and charged in the account—

Before I received your last letter on the subject of the Council House, I had laid the foundation of one larger than your instructions pointed out; it was forty five feet long, about twenty four wide with a steep gambrel roof, which makes an excellent room above to store the Indian annuities, and other property for the Indian department.

It is built of good, solid stone, and lime—The walls are now carried up, and the roof is put on.

I hope the appropriations the present year are such that you will approve of what I have done; a separate room for the Council room is absolutely necessary, for the public papers, accounts, pipes, Indian ornaments etc. of the department—The room above, being forty five feet long, and sixteen wide in the clear, will allways save the expense of building a store or hiring one for the department—It has been built, and will be completed with as much economy as possible, and it will be durable, being built of the most solid materials—It is directly opposite to the house built for the bank, on the corner of a street, and on as valuable ground as any in the Town.

The whole expense of it when completely finished, will not vary much from sixteen hundred dollars—at any time it will bring that sum, if hereafter it should not be wanted for this purpose—Untill we can build a Church and Court house, it will be very convenient to hold our Courts and attend public worship, at times when it will not interfere with the accomodations of the Indians.—The best contract I could make for one on the plan you proposed, was one thousand Dollars, and that built of logs—Building is excessively expensive here—Having done what I really believed was for the public interest, I sincerely hope it will meet with your approbation—If I had built a slight one on a small scale, it would soon have decayed—This will endure almost as long as time—It was built by the best mechanics from Boston—Some part of the stone, I obtained from the military agent, Mr.

Baker, for which I shall give Credit. They were from the old Citadel—

By my accounts, you will see I have not employed any Carpenter or farmers, the last year—I have employed two Blacksmiths, one four or five months, and the other less than two—One at this place, and the other has contracted to work at Saguina. After I had made the contract for Saguina the Indians at the River St. Clair were very solicitous, he should work there this winter—It being late in the season, and the boat navigation dangerour, I consented, and I find he is very usefull—I shall probably remove him to Saguina in the Spring—

Since the first of January, I have employed a Carpenter—He is making ploughs, harrows, and other kind of farming utensils—The Indians appear to be disposed to attend to Agriculture, and I shall do all in my power to encourage them—

The Blacksmith here has shewed my own horses, and mended a few little articles for me,—I have directed him to keep an account and if you think proper, I will give the U. S. Credit—

There are a quantity of old hatchets in the care of the military agent here, which were left by General Wayne's Army, which the agent says are of no use at present. They would be very useful to the Indians if repaired, in making their sugar, and for other purposes.

The Indians brought many Guns to be stocked—My Blacksmith did not understand it—I got two or three done for the Chiefs, by private workmen—They charged an enormous price, as will be seen by the accounts—A man late in the fall came from Machana well recom-

mended, as an armourer—He was going to Montreal, but it was so late in the season, that he concluded to remain here—I have hired him at twelve Dollars a month, and he has been very industrious in repairing locks and has stocked all the barrels, the Indians have brought—I presume he would continue for about 20 Dollars a month, after the spring opens. I think he is very useful—A great part of the living of the Indians here at present is by hunting, and we cannot do them a more essential service, than by repairing their Guns, traps, spears for fishing, etc—If you approve of it, I will continue him, the best terms I can—

There are in the military store here, a large number of old rifle barrels, and locks, which are rusting and going to ruin—Mr. Baker has furnished with [sic] four or five of them, and this armourer has stocked them, and repaired the locks, and they are now nearly as good as new ones—

I shall return them in this perfect order to Mr. Baker, or wait your orders, respecting a disposition of them—If you approve of employing him, as there are tools, and room in the Blacksmiths Shop, for him to work, he would be able to stock and repair a large number of them, when the work for the Indians does not press—You could direct any disposition of them, you please, after they are repaired—For annuities, or any other payments, the Indians would be glad to take them at twenty Dollars each—or if they were stored, they would be useful, in the event of war, and raising rifle Companies. All the expense of stocking and repairing one of them, would not amount to more than three or four Dollars at most—

The Chiefs would be very grateful for some of them as presents—If you approve, please to give an order on Mr. Baker for the barrels and locks—Likewise the hatchets—

I am respectfully, your most obedt. servt—

William Hull

H. Dearborn Esqr
Secretary of War.

Hull to Dearborn

Detroit 20th Febry A D 1807.

Sir—

I have had the honor to receive your letter of the 27th of January, enclosing a commission to treat with certain Tribes of Indians, dated the 16th day of January last with your instructions accompanying the same—At present, I have very little doubt, but the first, and probably the second tract may be purchased, and for less than the ultimatum you have fixed—

You will probably recollect, the house of Representatives, the last session, passed a law, granting about Sixty acres of land to each individual Indian at Browns Town and Maguago,—It did not pass the Senate—The Wyandots at those places, now reside on lands belonging to the United States.

Whether the President, with the concurrence of the senate, would have a right, in making the Treaty, to grant a tract of about Six miles one way and eight the other, so as to include both the Villages and the intermediate land, or two small tracts, one to each of the

Villages, and leaving vacant ground, of three or four miles between the two, and for this to be considered as a part of the consideration of the large purchase, I am doubtful—

The reservation you propose, on the eastern line, of the second tract, will probably be Satisfactory, to those residing at upper and lower Sandusky—There will however be one other question and that is, if the ten or fifteen miles on the Eastern line, to be reserved to the Indians, should extend as far west, as to include the whole or any part of the two reservations, now belonging to the United States, to which you refer, whether by a treaty, it can be receded without an act of Congress—And if it could, whether it would be expedient to do it, provided the Indians desired it—

When I first received the Commission, it was a question with me, whether it would not be best to be silent on the subject, untill near the time, when I proposed to hold the treaty. I consulted with one or two confidential friends, who were best acquainted with Indian Affairs, and they gave it as their opinion, that it was most expedient to make it public immediately. The more time was given the better—Before they acted, they would consult together, that so much must be said, and they would consider it fairer, to have time and not be hurried.

We are now on such terms with the British, that I think we shall meet with few or no embarrassments from the influence of Colo Grant the commanding Officer, Capt McGee, the Indian Agent, or other influential Characters on that side—

I will use as much Economy, as will possibly be con-

sistent with the public interests, and will endeavor to restrict the number as much as possible—They are however so much in the habit of attending in numerous bodies, on occasions of this kind, that I fear it will be difficult, to limit them to the number you mention, without exciting Jealousies— —

I probably shall not hold the treaty until about the first of June,—They are now on their hunting grounds, will soon be employed in making their Sugar, and in the month of May, will be engaged in their planting—In the meantime, I shall be making the preparatory arrangements—

If the treaty can be effected, and the lands can soon be opened for sale, it will be of vast advantage to this Country, and likewise to the United States—The more I see of the Country, the more valuable I consider it—

I am respectfully, your most

obedt Servt

William Hull

Hon. H. Dearborne)
Secretary of War.)

P.S. I would suggest to you, whether instead of making the shore of Lake Huron &c the boundary, it would not be more desirable, to extend it to the boundary line between upper Canada, and the United States, so as to include the Islands, provided it can easily be effected—

W Hull

N.B. I do not learn that parchment can be obtained here, suitable to write the Treaties on provided they should be made—will you send on some—

no lands now the property of the U. S. should be

transferred by Treaty, Of course the reservations you mention could be excepted out of the tract proposed to be reserved for the Indians—The boundary line between Canada and the U. S. may be made later in place of the shores as the subject relative to the land about Browns Town cannot be [?] by Treaty.

Hull to Dearborn

Detroit 4th March 1807—

Dear Sir—

Believing you are desirous of doing all in your power with propriety to promote my happiness, I take the liberty of stating to you, in as concise a manner as possible, the situation of things here, and the causes, which have led to them—on my arrival here, the Town of Detroit was in ashes & the people in distress—I was sincere in my declarations, that I would do all in by power, for their relief—Everything was tranquil during the first summer—

During my absence, under the administration of the Secretary, the whole Country was in a State of Alarm, on account of the Indians.

I took measures, immediately on my arrival to explain the disposition of our Government towards them, and they were satisfied. I have not since heard a Complaint from them—Every thing remained quiet, untill we began to act as Commissioners, under the law of Congress, granting donations, &c.

Judge Woodward being at the Seat of Government

when this act passed, and having been very instrumental in obtaining it, and having before taken an active part in laying out the new Town, I felt desirous his views and Objects should be gratified, as far as I believed was consistent with the public Interest—

It was a great object with him to carry the Settlement from the River on the Common—As we have few lots near the River, it was at first a question with me whether it would not render the donation lots aggregattly more valuable to assign them in a body, west of the Main Street, and I consented to some resolutions, which had a tendency to produce this result—The beginning of Septembr I went to the River Raisin to review the Militia—A Committee of the Board was appointed to report a System on this Subject. On my return the Committee reported.—I thought, myself, the report excluded too many of the most valuable lots—I opposed it, & proposed an Amendment, which included them—My system was adopted by a majority of the Board—Judge Woodward, I believe, thought his System the best, and has not been cordial in the execution of the one adopted—The Judge is a man of fine talents, but my opinion is, he wishes to undertake objects too great, and looks forward too far—My views are more confined and in my opinion better calculated for the Happiness of those now on the Stage—Perhaps a Philosoper or Speculative Man would give the preference to the Judges System—

Altho I have disagreed with him, yet I believe his objects are to promote the prosperity of the Country—

He and Mr Griswold have long been at variance—And I have lately recd letters from my friends at Washing-

ton, informing me Mr Griswold, has been in the habit of writing letters unfriendly to me—I have called on Mr G. in pretty severe terms and am determined to bring him to an honorable explanation—This is a personal matter, with which I will not trouble you—If he can justify his conduct, I shall be happy—I have allways been his friend, and done all in my power to serve him—Further, I have had reason to believe, he has fanned the flame of discontent here—I sincerely hope it is not true—

The French people in the Territory, are disposed to be orderly and are satisfied—The disorders and discontents generally with the Government are confined to a few—I am conscious, I have done all I could with propriety to satisfy them—

I have no possessions to gratify, & no Interest in the Country, but one acre of land, which I bought of an Individual, on which I am building an house to make me comfortable—There is not a barn in Massachusetts more open, than the room, I have slept in this winter—I have brought all my property into the Country, excepting the farm which was Judge Fullers—I am pleased with the Country, & like the people generally—I am not desirous of wealth, or any kind of splendor—I wish to procure fame by promoting the prosperity of the Country—

The loss of Judge Bates will be great—A man of intelligence, honor, & the greatest purity of mind—God grant him much in the Country, where he has gone—I have recommended Elisha Brush, a respectable Lawyer here, to the President, thro' the Secretary of State, to fill his place—His wifes connections are on the other Side—Perhaps there may be impressions that he is at-

tached to the other Government—He as a Lawyer has acted for the British Merchants—From all I have seen no man is more attached to our Government, or would be more ready to defend it with his life agt any Enemy—He was born & educated in the New England States—I believe nothing would so much tend to restore things to a proper State—

Excuse this long letter, & believe me to be
unalterably your friend—

William Hull.

Genl Dearborn.

Hull to Dearborn

Detroit 7th of March 1807.

Sir—

The Armourer, whom I have employed would not agree to remain, and I have paid him at the rate of twelve Dollars a month—He has repaired the Guns of the Indians, which have been brought in and has stocked and repaired the ten rifle barrels, delivered to me by Mr Baker—They are now in my possession and with your permission, I will make presents of them to some of the most influential and needy Chiefs—Something of the kind is expected, and I have been furnished with very little to present gratuitously—

After consulting with Mr Baker, we have employed Joseph Andre Clark as the Armourer—He is the best workman in this Country, and a very steady, sober man. We give him thirty Dollars a month, & a ration & a half

per day. I believe he will be very useful to the public—When there is not work for the Indians, he will repair the rifles, under the direction of the military Agent—

I am respectfully, your most
Obedt Servt

William Hull.

Honble H. Dearborn Esqr
Secretary of War.

Dearborn to Hull

Expenditures in the Indian Agency at Detroit

I think it will be advisable to continue to imploy the gunsmith you mention, and what work he performs for the war Dept exclusive of Indian work will be allowed from the Department which will operate as a relief to the Indian fund, which is usually barely sufficient for the objects for which it is intended—to avoid all improper suspicions, I would advise you not to imploy any of the public Mechanics for private purposes—your accounts blend several objects of expenditure, which ought to be kept distinct—whatever relates to annuities should not be connected with other expenses—the funds appropriated for different purposes, must be accounted for separately, and of course expenditures under the respective heads of appropriations should form separate and distinct accounts—your accounts are so blended as to prevent my forming any opinion on the several amounts before the Accountant shall have re-modeled

them so as to show the amount under each proper head—I have written to the A. M. A. to deliver to your order one half of the 510 hatchets and 10 of the rifles repaired by the gunsmith for work for the Indians—in repairing the 510 rifles and other arms.

[Endorsed]
Detroit, Feby 20, 1807.
Wm. Hull Relative to the expenditures in his Agency etc.

Rec'd March 14, 1807

Lieut. Daniel Baker to Gen. Henry Dearborn

Fort Detroit April 16, 1807

Sir,

I have this day delivered to Governor Hull Ten Rifles and Sixty eight Hatchets agreeably to your order of the 17th of March last—

I have the Honor to be
with the Greatest respect
Sir,
Your Obt St
Daniel Baker
Lieut & Asst. M. Agt

Honble Henry Dearborn
Secy of War

Hull to Dearborn

Detroit 23d April 1807.

Sir—

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the Presidents letter, enclosing three copies of the act of Congress authorizing him to accept the Service of volunteer Companies, and directing me to correspond with the Secretary of War, respecting the details—

I have issued an order of which the inclosed is a Copy—As soon as I receive the reports, they shall be communicated—

I beg you, Sir, to inform the President, that in the event of any military operations, if my services can be useful, they will be cheerfully afforded in the service of my Country—

I am respectfully,
your most obedt Servt

Honble H Dearborn
Secretary of War

William Hull.

General Orders

[Enclosure in Hull to Dearborn, April 23]

Detroit 23d April 1807.

General orders—

By an act of Congress passed the last session, the President of the United States is authorized to accept the services of a number of volunteer Companies, not

exceeding thirty thousand men, a Copy of which act, and a letter from the President accompany this order—

The several Companies of Militia of the 1st and 2d Regts, Lt Colo Cotterells Battallion, & the legionary Corps, will assemble on their Company parades on Saturday, the 2nd day of May next, at 10 o'clock A. M., armed & equipped as the law directs, when the Act of Congress, and the letter of the President, will be communicated—

Any Company, or Companies desirous of associating & offering their services will immediately report the same to the adjt General—

The Commander in Chief intending to join this Association and offer his voluntary Services in any Station, his Country may think proper to employ him, sincerely hopes his fellow Citizens of the Territory of Michigan, will be prompt and ardent for the enterprize, and not suffer the patriotism in the other parts of the Union to complete their chosen band, and deprive them of a participation in the honor—

The defence of our Country is the first duty and the most honorable Service to which we can be called—If men in dispotic governments manifest an ardor in defence of their Country, what ought to be the feelings and conduct of freemen?

The People of America possess a valuable inheritance—It has been acquired by valor, and has descended to them free and unincumbered with any dishonorable Claims—May they ever be inspired with the Spirit, by which it was obtained, and improve the present occasion to exhibit their patriotic conduct—

If our differences with foreign nations should be settled by honorable negotiation, we acquire the honor of *Patriots,* without fatigue or Danger—If war must necessarily be the result, a glorious field will be opened, for the display of talents, the *gratification* of enterprize, and an *imitation* of the exalted Characters, who founded the American Nation.

Hull to Dearborn

Detroit 2d May 1807.

Sir—

Your letter of the 24th of March, fully explains the business of the Puttawatamy Annuities—

I had no knowledge of the treaty made at.Grouseland, and supposed Greenville, was intended in your letter of the 12th May 1806.

And as you said, $285 will be deducted, I understood it an instruction to me, to do it—

The one half of that sum shall be sent to Mr Jouett, and the other paid according to your directions—

With respect to the agreement of the Puttawatomies, I will correspond with Mr Jouett, and obtain the best information in my power, when I will inform you of the result—

I am respectfully, your most obedt Servt

William Hull.

Honble H. Dearborn Esqr
Secretary of War.

Capt. J. Whistler to Gen. Henry Dearborn

Fort Dearborn 5th May 1807

Sir

I wrote to you on the sixteenth of March last and took the liberty of Inclosing a draught for the Beef I had contracted for as stated in my Letter of the sixth of January last, But the Contractors agent at Fort Wayne having discharged said Draught and returned it with the letter to me as being authorized so to do by me if he thought proper—I have now taken the liberty of informing you of the same—

Sir

I am with every respect
your most Obet and
very Humb Servt.
J. Whistler, Capt

Honl Henry Dearborn
Secretary of War

Hull to Dearborn

Detroit 6th May 1807.

Sir—

In answer to your letter of the 6th of April, I enclose you copies of speeches, which I have sent to the Wyandots and Ottaways, and a speech I received from Obiwaois, the principal Chief of the Ottaways—By my accounts you must have perceived, that those Nations

had not been paid—I am conscious of having done every thing in my power for their accomodation, and shall continue to do the same—As soon last fall, as I got the checks discounted, I informed the Chiefs of the Wyandots, at Maguago and Brownstown, that the money was ready for them.—They informed me, they could do nothing without the Crane, that he had gone on his hunting ground, and it must rest untill the spring—Obiwaois gave me the same information respecting the Ottaways.

Whenever they call, they will be paid—

I am respectfully, your most obedt

Servt

William Hull.

Honble H. Dearborn,

Secretary of War.

I have written to Mr Spafford, and sent him Copies of my Speeches—

Obiwaois to William Hull

[Enclosure in Hull to Dearborn, May 6]

River Huron the 8th November 1806

My father,

The present is to give you information that the season is now too far advanced for me to come to Detroit—but I am in hopes of having the honour of seeing you next spring and to speak of the business that we have together—I hope in the spring to receive $400 dollars in Cash on account of our business—As respects the $1,000 in goods of annuities, I hope they will be delivered to us

in the course of next summer—The annuities which will be delivered in two years will go to the Ottaways of Michillimackinac—My father, nothing new have we to tell you but that we wish you good health—

I am with respect—Your obt St

his
(Signed) Obiwaois X
mark

William Hull to Obiwaois

[Enclosure in Hull to Dearborn, May 6]

Detroit 6th May 1807—

To Obiwaois, and the other Chiefs of]
the Ottaway nations—

My children,

Untill I received a speech from your Chief Obiwaois, I expected you would have called for your money the last fall, which was due by the treaty of Fort Industry—You well knew the reason why it was not paid when your chiefs were here, the last summer—it was in large orders on the bank of New-York for which the gold, silver or small bank-bills could not then be obtained—I procured it as soon as it was possible and it has been ready for you for a long time—on the 8th of Novr 1806 Obiwaois one of your chiefs informed me you should not call for it until the spring, I have taken care of it for you and it is ready whenever you call—I have heard of some complaints on account of its not being paid before—It was the duty of the Chiefs who knew the rea-

sons to have explained them to all their people—I should have been glad to have paid it when I first received it—but your chiefs were not willing to receive the orders, and I know myself they could not have been divided and would not have answered your purpose—In future I hope and expect the money will be sent in gold or silver or in small bank-bills which may answer your purpose—All your rights will be protected and all the public engagements to you fullfilled—It is the duty of the chiefs to restrain the young men and prevent the least insult or injury to any of the white people in their neighborhood or those who come to settle on lands they have purchased—

I salute you with affection and friendship—

(Signed) William Hull

William Hull to Wyandot Chiefs

[Enclosure in Hull to Dearborn, May 6]

Detroit 6th May 1807—

To the Crane and other Chiefs
and Warriors of the Wyandot Nation—
My children,

I am informed that some of your nation are dissatisfied on account of not having received the money due to them by the treaty of Fort Industry—you who were here last summer fully knew the cause, your great father, the President of the United-States sent it to me in orders on the Bank of New-York in large sums, I shewed to you the orders and offered to pay you in them—You

declined to accept them, I attempted to get them exchanged for silver but it could not then be done I informed you I would have it done as soon as possible and would give notice to Walkinthewater and the other chiefs at Brown's town and Maguago—as soon as it was done I gave this notice, the answer I recd was that you had gone on your hunting grounds and could not come in to receive it untill this spring. you will remember further you have not as yet informed me what proportion the Delawares and Munsees are to receive—the money was ready in orders at the time when the payment was due—It has for a long time been ready in silver and gold and small bank-bills, and I again call on the chiefs to come and receive it—and as the chiefs and many of the warriors know all these facts, it is their duty and I expect they will explain them to all the people of the nation—I have stated to the Secretary of War the inconvenience of the orders and I hope in future it will be sent in silver or gold in which case there will not be a moments delay—But before you come, you must remember to make an agreement with the Delawares and Munsees—My children, I hope and expect no further difficulties will take place, all engagements to you will be fullfilled—this I promise you in the name of my country—the cause of the present delay for a short time was owing to the payment being sent in orders—it has for a long time been owing to your not having called for it—It is your duty to fullfill your engagements and never to offer any insult or injury to any of the white people who reside in your neighboured—or who come to settle on their lands—This is both your duty

and your interest and if any thing to the contrary has taken place, it must not be repeated—if on your part you receive any injuries, you have only to represent them and they will be redressed—In your great father The President of the United-States you have a sincere friend—he will protect all your rights and do all his power to promote your happiness—he will never suffer any wrong to be done to you by any of his agents and his ears will ever be open to your reasonable complaints—

I salute you, my children, with affection and friendship—

(Signed) William Hull

Daniel Baker to Henry Dearborn

Sir, Fort Detroit May 8th 1807

The Armorer heretofore employed by Governor Hull for the Indian Department, unwilling to continue any longer, was discharged on the 30th ult., since which we have engaged an experienced workman at Thirty dollars per month, and one & ½ Ration per day, who will be employed agreeably to your order of the 17th of March last.

I have the Honor to be
with the Greatest respect
Sir
Your Obt St
Daniel Baker
Lieut. & Asst M. Agt.

Honble Henry Dearborn
Secretary of War

Hull to Dearborn

Detroit 13th May 1807.

Sir—

Inclosed is a Copy of a Speech, I sent on the 11th of Novr 1806, to the Chiefs of the Wyandots, Delawares, Munsees and Shawonoese—It was my intention, to have sent it by the last mail—It was omitted by mistake—

I am respectfully, your most obedt
Servt

William Hull—

Honble H. Dearborn,
Secretary of War.

William Hull to Indians Regarding Money for Distribution

[Enclosure in Hull to Dearborn, May 13]

Detroit 11 November 1806

To the Chiefs of the Wyandot
Delawares & Munsees Nation & Shawonese—
My Children

When you were last with me I told you that your great father had not the money for you—on account of the treaty at swan Creek—but that it was there in Large Bills, which could not be divided I have been doing all I could to get it exchanged—I likewise told you that you must agree with respect to the division of it—I wish the Chiefs to come and let me know, what their agreement is

with respect to a Division, and I will then pay them—

(Signed) Wm Hull

Copy

I received the speech from the [Bolerson?] and will attend to it—

Hull to Dearborn

Sir— Detroit 15th May 1807.

I have received your letter of the 8th of April—In February last, I wrote to General Gansevort for certain Articles, which I deemed necessary for the Indian department—I likewise drew a bill on you for three hundred Dollars—If you had accepted & paid the bill, I expected you would have charged the amount of it to my account,—If the articles furnished by Gansevort had amounted to more than $300, he would have charged the ballance to me, and not to you—If to a less sum, he would have given me credit—

If he had declined purchasing them, he ought to have sent back the bill, as I had no other dealings with him—If I had purchased Articles, which were unsutiable, or unnecessary for the Indian department, and had charged them, my accounts would have been rejected, and Mr Gansevort would not have been effected one way or the other—

My letter to Genl Gansevort inclosing the bill was sent by Colo Anderson of the River Raisin—He called on me in haste, while on his Journey—I immediately wrote the letter & made the memorandum—I at the same time sent for the Blacksmith & Carpenter of the Indian de-

partment, and desired them to inform me, what Iron & Steel would be necessary, and what tools were wanted to complete their Setts. Their original memorandums of tools, I believe, were inclosed—The business was done in great haste, but according to a rough memorandum, which I find, and a Copy of which I enclose, the articles therein contained were sent for—

Considering the hasty manner, in which the business was done, it is possible, that more Articles were contained in the Copy sent on, and the quantities of some larger—It is not however within my recollection—The Carpenter & Blacksmith were present, when the copy sent to Gansevort was made out, and it is very probable, from their suggestions, the quantities might have been increased, and the alterations & additions not made in the copy, which I retained—

The oil & white lead, I thought necessary, to paint the Council House, and such Sashes as I should make for the Indians, and you know good farmers paint their Carts, and many other implements of Husbandry for their preservation—

The Indians are now building themselves comfortable Houses—They have applied to me for Windows—I have promised those, who would build good houses, to furnish them with some small windows. This I have allready done, and shall continue to do it, untill I have orders to the contrary—I could not furnish putty here under four shillings a pound—At Albany, it is not much more than four Cents—I did for the public the same, I did for myself—I sent to my Correspondent, Mr Watson, for Glass, oil, white lead, putty, &c on my own private acct and for my private use—

With respect to the Iron, if I understand the object of the Government, it is to encourage the Indians in their Agriculture—It is to be considered, they have heretofore had no other farming Utensils, but the hoe & the Tomahawk—

I have provided for them, ploughs, harrows, Carts, Axes, Chains, scythes, Iron wedges, horse traces, spears for fishing, and a variety of other useful articles—all the Guns and traps, they have brought in, have been repaired—

They are much pleased, and say, they now for the first time reallize what they were promised at the Treaty of Greenville, and have been promised ever since—You will consider, Sir, that the Chipawa, Ottawa, Wyandot, parts of the Putawatomy, Shawonoes, Delawares, Munsees, &c look to me, for the Aid & assistance they expect from the United States—You must be sensible, this aid & assistance to these numerous nations cannot be afforded without expence—The System adopted by our Government, I believe to be the best, which can be devised—The expence to the British Government, is probably ten times as much as it is to ours—But I believe the Indians do or will see, that it is not so useful to them—It is all in Cloathing, Guns, Ammunition and Gew-Gaws—An attention to Agriculture and the domestic arts will ameliorate their condition, and make them more comfortable than any other pursuits—

Inclosed is a memorandum of the persons employed in the Indian department, with their Compensations—I believe it was in conformity to your wishes & request to me—I likewise believe the public Interest is very much promoted by it—

If however the fund will not admit of this expence, for the several Nations of Indians in this Country, it is only necessary to inform me, and it will be modified in such manner, as you shall direct—It is however to be considered the Mechanicks can be of little use, without Stock.

Since I have been here, about seven hundred & fifty pounds of Iron has been made use of, and the Indians are now calling for Chains, and heavy articles which will require a considerable quantity—If I purchase it here, it will be at a very extravagant rate—

I find great difficulty in negociating Bills, payable at Washington, and must request you to send on money, in small New York bank bills, or make a deposit in one of the Banks of Albany or New York, on which I can draw for the necessary expences—

For the money due by the Treaty of Fort Industry, I think it absolutely necessary, to send it in Specie—To have it paid in Dollars and punctually, would be very pleasing to them, and attended with good consiquences—

I am respectfully, your most
Obedt Servt
William Hull

Honble H. Dearborn
Secretary of War.

N. B. The Collector here has always refused exchanging any bills—

[Endorsed]

Detroit May 15, 1807
Wm Hull Relative to
certain Articles necessary
for the Indian Department
the payment of their Annuities &c &c

Enclosing a list of persons employed
in the Indian Department & their Salaries.
[See Hull's letter, Feb. 17, 1807]
Recd June 15, 1807

Dearborn to Hull

Sir

Your letter of the 15th of May has been duly received.—it would be gratifying to me to furnish the Indians with many more articles than our funds will afford, but we must not exceed the appropriations It is the usual practice, to receive from the different Agencies quarterly estimates of the expenses and to transmit the money in season to meet the expenses, and if the estimates are too high for our means, we are obliged to reduce them.—your sistem if carried into effect, would require nearly the whole of the fund appropriated for the Indians in all parts of the U. S. you are very much mistaken as to the expense of the Indian Department in the Mississippi Territory.—

Genl Dearborn
Secretary of War.

Capt. Dunham to William Hull

Fort Michillimakinak May 20. 1807—

Sir I have thought it my duty to State to your Excellency, that their appears to be an extensive movement among the Savages of this quarter, which seems to carry

with it a good deal of the *dark* and *mysterious.* Belts of Wampum are rapidly circulating from one Tribe to another; and a Spirit is prevailing by no means pacific—— What I have been able to learn through sources to be relied on, leaves little room for conjecture, as to the object of their hostile intentions; and the enclosed *Talk,* which has been industriously spread among them, and which seems to have had considerable effect on their minds, needs no comment———

It ought to be observed, that this Talk is communicated in open council, where old and young of both Sexes are allowed to assemble. There is however another Talk known only in the private councils of the Chiefs and Warriors. From the Letter and Spirit of the former, we may easily infer the complexion and views of the latter—There is certainly *Mischief at the bottom*—And there can be no doubt in my mind, but that the object and intention of this great *Manitou,* or *Second Adam* under the pretense of restoring to the *Aboriginies* their former independence, and to the Savage character its ancient energy, is in reality, to induce a general effort to *rally;* and to Strike somewhere, a desperate and decisive blow—

I cannot say that I apprehend an immediate attack—perhaps my Character as a Soldier might be called in question, were I to suppose the *possibility* of a thing, which some would deem so *improbable* But, aware, as I am, of the insidiousness and treachery of these people, I have thought it no more than a dictate of prudence to *watch their motions*—And to be in constant readiness to receive them, either with the *Olive Branch* or the *Bayonet* as circumstances might require—Many fabulous & fool-

ish Stories are circulated to impress the idea of the great Progenitors divinity & Mission—But whether he is really the Envoy of Heaven, or only an Emissary from the Cabinet of St Cloud—I will not presume to say—He is represented as being seen only on an elevated Scaffold—sitting or kneeling *on a Cross*—and in a constant attitude of devotion—It is even said *he can fly;* and that the multitude of his Disciples, who visit him, are miraculously fed by a profusion of wild Animals which are thronging about him for that purpose.

All this is eagerly swallowed—And the seven denunciations of his *penal Code* terrify them, at once, into an adoption of his Creed—His System is so artfully interwoven with their ancient superstitions, and their modern Prejudices, that they receive the whole with a religious enthusiasm

How long this phrenzy may last, or whether the Indians immediately in this vicinity will eventually come into the extent of the measure, I cannot say—The Herald of this new Religion Le Maigous is a Brother of the principle Chief at *Arbre Croche*—He is now gone to Lake Superior to initiate the Savages of that quarter into its mysteries and is momently expected back to their Village, where he is to be met by all the *War Chiefs,* to whom he is then to communicate *something further*

Aided by the opinion and advice of the Officer and Gentlemen of the post, I have thought proper to detach a party to arrest him and his suit, as they return; and should they succeed, I shall either have him closely confined till further orders, or forward him to Detroit to await your Excellencys pleasure—

On his passage up he took a circuitous route to avoid

this Post, but called at St Josephs, where he danced the War Dance with *Poigamanguns* painted red, and every mark of hostile intentions (as I have been informed by a respectable Indian who was there at the time)—I have not a doubt but securing *him* and immediately calling together the Chiefs in order to open their eyes to the real views of this great *impostor,* will be a means of preventing at least the Chippawas and Ottawas of this part of the country from entering into the combination, which is either formed or forming, as I believe, against our people and Government—

I send this to St Josephs, that in case a vessel should be there, it might possibly reach you sooner than by the usual route I should also at this time have stated this business to the Hon Secretary of War were I sure of a Vessels sailing sooner from St Josephs, than from Mich-illimakinak.

Altho the details of this business may seem rather tedious, I have said no more than I conceived my duty

With the most respectful consideration, I have the Honor to be,

Sir

Your Excellencys Most Obedient and very Hble Servt

J. Dunham

His Excellency
Governor Hull

P. S. The Indians west of Lake Michigan have been engaged the whole Winter in parties, dances, &c &c and it is believed by some who have been with them in the course of the Winter, that Chicagau is destroyed before

now—Others have said in their figurative language "that the *stream of the Americans* towards the west has been lately dried up" Time will enlighten us on this point—With regard to this Adam or great Prophet, they do not know exactly where he is—some say that he is at River Le Roche near the Mississippi—Many of the Chiefs have gone from this quarter in pursuit of him—Hardly any Indians have visited the post this spring—

J. Dunham.

Copy of a Letter from
Capt J. Dunham to
Governor Hull dated
May 20, 1807—

Speech of Indian Chief to Various Tribes

[Enclosure in Dunham to Hull, May 20]

Substance of a Talk delivered at *Le Maiouilinong,* entrance of Lake Michigan by the Indian *Chief Le Maigouis* or the *Trout,* May 4, 1807, as coming from the first man whom God created. Said to be now in the *Shawanese* country, addressed to all the different Tribes of Indians.—

Le Maigouis holding in his hand *eight strings of Old Wampum* four white and four blue—Said

Brothers

These strings of *Wampum* come from the *Great Spirit,* do not despise them—For he knows everything—they are to go all round the earth till they are lost—They were sent to you by the *first Man* he created with these words—

Children I was asleep when the *great Spirit* addressed himself to another Spirit said—I have closed my *Book of Accounts,* with Man; and an [am] going to destroy the Earth. But first I will awaken from the sleep of the dead.—The first man I created he is wise. And let us hear if he has ought to say—He then awoke me and told me what he was about to do

I looked round the world and saw my *Red Children* had greatly degenerated; that they had become scattered and miserable—When I saw this I was grieved on their account—And asked leave of the Great Spirit to come to see if I could reclaim them. I requested the *great Spirit* to grant in case they should listen to my voice. That the world might yet subsist for the period of *three full lives,* And my request was granted—

Now therefore *My Children,* listen to my voice, It is that of the *Great Spirit*—If you hearken to my Counsel, and follow my instructions for four years, there will then be two *days of darkness;* during which I shall travel unseen through the land and cause the Animals such as they were formerly when I created them, to come forth out of the Earth—*The great Spirit bids* me address you in his own words which are these.—

My Children You are to have very little intercourse with the Whites. They are not your *Fathers,* as you call them; but your *Breathren—I am your Father* When you call me so you do well—*I am the Father of the English of the French of the Spaniards and of the Indians.* I created the first Man who was the common Father of all these people, as well as yourselves And it is through him, Whom I have awakened from this long

sleep, that I now address you—But the *Americans* I did not make—They are not my *Children.* But the *Children* of the *Evil Spirit—They grew from the Scum of the great water, when it was troubled by the Evil Spirit—And the froth was driven into the Woods by a strong east wind—They are numerous—But I hate them—They are unjust—They have taken away your Lands which were not made for them*

My Children The Whites I placed on the other side of the *Great Lake,* that they might be a separate people—To them I gave different manners, customs, animals, vegetables etc for their use, To them I have given Cattle, Sheep, Swine and poultry for themselves only. You are not to keep any of these Animals, nor to eat their meat—To you I have given the Deer, the Bear, and all wild animals. And the fish that swim in the River, and the Corn that grows in the fields, for your own use—And you are not to give your Meat or your Corn to the *Whites* to eat

My Children You may salute the Whites when you meet them, *But must not shake hands.* You must not get drunk. It is a great sin. Your old Men and Chiefs may drink a little *pure Spirits* such as comes from Montreal—*But you must not drink one drop of Whiskey.* It is the drink of the evil spirit It was not made by me —But by the *Americans* It is poison. It makes you sick—It burns your insides—Neither are you on any account to eat bread It is the food of the Whites—

My Children You must plant corn for yourselves, for your Wives, and for your Children; and when you do it you are to help each other. But plant no more than

is necessary for your own use, You must not sell it to the *Whites*—It was not made for them. I made all the trees of the forest for your use.—But the *Maple* I love best, because it yields sugar for your little ones—You must make it only for them—But sell none to the *Whites* —They have another sugar which was made expressly for them—Besides by making to[o] much you spoil the Trees, and give them pain by cutting and hacking them— For they have a feeling like yourselves—If you make more than is necessary for your own use, you shall die, and the Maple will yield no more water—If a white Man is starving you may sell him a little corn or a very little Sugar but it must be by measure and by weight

My Children You are indebted to the White Traders —But you must pay them no more *than half their credits because they have cheated you*—You must pay them in Skins, Guns, Canoes, &c—But not in meat, Corn or Sugar —You must not dress like the Whites nor wear Hats like them—But pluck out your hair as in ancient times, and wear the feather of the Eagle on your heads—And when the weather is not severe you must go naked, excepting the *Breech Cloth*—And when you are clothed it must be in Skins, or Leather of your own dressing———

My Children You complain that the Animals of the Forest are few and scattered—How shall it be otherwise —You destroy them yourselves, for their skins only, and leave their bodies to rot or give the best pieces to the *Whites—I am displeased when I see this and take them back to the earth,* that they may not come to you again— You must kill no more Animals than are necessary to feed and cloth[e] you, and you are to keep but one Dog, because by keeping too many you starve them—

My Children Your Women must not live with the Traders or other White Men, unless they are lawfully married—But I do not like even this; because my White and Red Children were thus marked with different colours, that they might be a separate people—

Then follow certain regulations respecting courtship and marriage—as also respecting the purification of Women at certain periods, which are to[o] minutely detailed to be repeated—The great Spirit also directs them all to bathe every morning, to wash away their sins.—Upon the observance of which regulations, they are to be pardoned four times for the same offence—such as stealing, getting drunk, or the like—But the fifth time says the great Spirit *you shall surely die*—

Your wise men (or conjurors) have had medicine in their bags—They must throw away their medicine Bags —And when the medicine is in the blossom collect it fresh and pure—You must make no feast to the evil Spirits of the Earth—But only to the good Spirits of the air—You are no more to dance the Wabano, nor the *Piogan or pipe dance*—I did not put you on the earth to dance those dances, but you are to *dance naked* with your *bodies painted* and with the *Poigamangum or* (*War Club*) in your hands—You must all have this weapon and never leave it behind you—When you dance this I shall always look on with pleasure—You are to make yourselves *Paka tocianaes* or Crosses which you must always carry with you, and amuse yourselves often with that game. (A kind of bat ball common among the Savages, which requires great agility) Your Women must have also handsome *Passa quanacts* that they may play also; for I made you to amuse yourselves—And I am delighted

when I see you happy You are however *never to go to War against each other* But to cultivate peace between your different Tribes that they may become one great people.

My Children No Indian must sell rum to Indians—It makes him rich, but when he dies he becomes very wretched—You bury him with all his wealth and ornaments about him—And *Ash* grows along the path of the dead, they fall from him—He stops to take them up and they become dust, He at last arrives almost at the place of rest, and then crumbles into dust himself—But these [who] by their labour furnish themselves with necessaries only, when they die are happy. And when they arrive at the Land of the dead will find *their Wigwams furnished* with every thing they had on Earth."

Thus far the Great Spirit

Now My Children, said the first created Man

"Listen to what I am about to add The Great Spirit then opened a door, showing me a Bear and a Deer, both very small and very lean, and said look here my Son. These are the Animals that are now on the earth—The Red People have spoiled them by killing them too young, and by giving their meat to the Whites, and also by greasing themselves with their fat, which is very wrong —The Women when they grease their bodies or their hair, should do it only with the fat of the smaller Animals, of Raccoons, of Otters, of Snakes, &c—*The Great Spirit* then opened another door, and shewed me a Bear and a Deer extremely fat, and of a very extraordinary size—*Saying, look here, My Son.* Those are the Animals placed on the Earth when I created you—Now My Children, listen to what I say and let it sink into your ears—

It is the order of the Great Spirit—My Children, You must not speak of this Talk to the Whites—*It must be hidden from them*—I am now on the Earth sent by the *Great Spirit* to instruct you.—Each Village must send me two or more principle Chiefs to represent you that you may be taught—The Bearer of this Talk will point out to you the path to my Wigwam—I could not come to *Arbre Croche* myself, because the World is changed from what it was—It is broken and leans down, and as it declines the *Chippewas* and all beyond will fall off and die—Therefore you must come to see me and be instructed *In order to prevent it* Those Villages which do not listen to this Talk, and send me two Deputies, will be cut off from the face of the Earth''

Hull to Dearborn

Detroit 25th May 1807.

Sir—

In a former letter, I observed to you, that I had reasons to believe that Mr. Griswold had fanned the flame of discontent in this Territory.

It is a justice due to him to declare, that on further enquiry, I am now satisfied, the information was not correct, on which that Opinion was founded—

I am respectfully, your
most obedt Servt
William Hull.

H. Dearborn Esqr
Secretary of War.

Hull to Dearborn

Detroit 29th May 1807.

Sir—

I received a Speech from the Ottaway Chiefs, requesting that the fire might be rekindled at Swan Creek, where the treaty was held; & where they say, they were promised the money should be paid—I have fixed on the 15th of June to meet them, and have likewise invited the Wyandots, Delawares & Munsees and such of the Shawonese as reside among them—

I have likewise given them notice to come prepared to hold a partial Council, respecting the intended treaty—I shall take some of the Chipaway Chiefs with me—

I have likewise an interesting question to settle between Mr Badger the missionary, & Mr Patterson, a trader—

I am respectfully, your most obedt
Servt

Genl Dearborn
Secretary of War.

William Hull.

War Department Order

War Department June 9, 1807

Sir,

Henry B. Brevort
62.

Your letter of the 2d Ult. has been received. In answer I authorize you to give directions for erecting the buildings mentioned

I am respectfully &c

LEWIS HOWARD TO HENRY DEARBORN

Fort Wolcutt June 11th 1807

Sir

I have the Honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Letter of the 10th June, Informing that the President of the United States, had approved of my Promotion to the Rank of Captain; a circumstance highly Gratifying to me, and such as I shall endeavour, by my attention to the Public Interest & Service to Merit,

I am Sir with Sentiments
of High respect & Esteem
Your very Obedt Servt
LEWIS HOWARD

Honble Henry Dearborn
Secretary of War

CAPT. J. DUNHAM TO WILLIAM HULL

Fort Michillimackinack
June 12, 1807.

Sir, enclosed I have the honor to transmit you a Copy of a Letter Received this day from Charles Reaume Esqr a Magistrate at La Baye—I have only to add that the Traders from that quarter seem to think that Mr Reaumes apprehensions are not without grounds—It is a well known fact, that the Savages on that side of the Lake have passed the Winter almost wholly in the War dance, and other amusements, such as among these peo-

ple, we are wont to consider as harbingers of hostility

With the highest Sentiments of
Respect I have the Honor
To be Sir
Your Excellencys
Most Obedient and very
Humble Servant
J. DUNHAM

His Excellency
Governor Hull

CHARLES REAUME TO CAPT. DUNHAM

[Enclosure in Dunham to Hull, June 12]

To Capt Dunham Commanding the Post of Michillimackinac &c &c-

Sir

It is very important that I should give you notice of what is passing among the Savages in this quarter—They are very badly disposed towards the Americans at the different posts—And from what I can discover and learn by the preparations they are making, it seems they are determined to make War upon them, and have appointed a place of rendevous, whence they may be able to attack several posts at the same time—It is my duty to advise you of this, that you may be on your guard, and by prevention be able to avoid the blow which appears to be seriously impending, and which you may expect in a short time

This information which I hasten to communicate is gathered from what we the Inhabitants see passing among them before our eyes, and have understood from

their meetings and Councils. They have a *parable* by which it seems that a Manitou or Prophet is sent to them from above to instruct them and to teach them the true method of living. We have also made this discovery by the Nation called the [*Folles Avoine?*] or wild Oat Indians; the greater part of whom refuse to go to this general Rendevous, Viz—at the Prairie du Corbeau, about fifteen Leagues from Pioreas, when they are to meet in order to make the arrangements for *striking altogether*—I hope you will take the necessary precautions to avoid the danger that threatens you. I conclude praying you to believe me to be a Citizen (subject) of the United States who has the.....with all possible attention and Respect

Sir

Your Most Obedet and very Hble

Servt

Green Bay — Charles Reaume

June 4: 1807— — Justice of the Peace

Hull to Dearborn

Foot of the Rapids of the

Sir— Miami, 15th June 1807.

I arrived here last Evening. It is in consequence of a request from the Ottawa Nation to pay them here the money, due to them, on account of the Treaty of Fort Industry—I likewise requested the Wyandots, Delawares, &c to meet me here for the same purpose—The latter have informed me they prefer coming to Detroit, and do not attend for that purpose—

I had likewise another object, which was to converse with them respecting the sale of the lands east of this river—I have all their money in Specie here, & shall pay them tomorrow, if all the Chiefs arrive this evening as they expect—They appear to be perfectly well disposed—They & the Wyandots are very anxious about the murder of a Mr Boyer on the Mad River—They are exerting themselves to the utmost, to find out & deliver up the Murderer—They all assure me, it was an unauthorized Act of any Nation, and perpetrated by the private revenge of some Individual or Individuals—I met deputations going to me on the subject—

The Chiefs of all the Nations will meet me at Detroit the last of this Month—I fully expect to succeed in making an advantageous Treaty for the sale of these lands—I have this day gratified myself, by viewing the ground, where Genl Wayne obtained his Victory over the Indians—Several Gentlemen were with me, who were in the action—It was quite a feast to me—

This is a delightful Country—I think the finest, I have ever seen—It will settle rapidly, when the lands are opened for sale—The day after tomorrow, it is my intention to return to Detroit—

I am respectfully your most
obedt Servt

William Hull.

Honble H. Dearborn,
Secretary of War.

P.S. The deputations of Indians have presented to me, the death hammer, the war feather, & the war Instrument, and some hair of the scalp of the murdered

man, which were left on his body, which is understood to mean, by the man or men who committed the murder, if you accept of these instruments, we are ready to do the same thing again to you—
All the Chiefs, express the greatest indignation & concern about this Act—

War Department Order

War Department June 18th 1807

Sir,

John Whistler
198.—163

The bearer Mr Varnum having been appointed by the President of the United States agent to the Indian trading house at your Post; I will thank you for any advice or aid you may afford him. He is an amiable young man; has been some time in my office; his morality and integrity may be fully relied on. He may probably wish to board in your family; if so you will find him agreable.

I am, Sir &c.

Hull to Dearborn

Detroit 22d of June 1807.

Sir—

Early this morning, I arrived from the foot of the Rapids—The Chiefs of the Ottawas, and about three

hundred of the Nation attended.—It was my intention to have remained only two or three days. They however were anxious, that I should see all the Chiefs, who were hourly expected—I complied with their request, and was with them six days—

I believe they will not object to the sale of the lands between the Miami & the Connecticut Reserve, provided a suitable reservation can be agreed on—They are now scattered in different Villages, and some of them are on lands belonging to the United States—They seem desirous of assembling together in one Village—They received their money and appeared perfectly satisfied—During the whole time I was with them, they conducted with great propriety and exhibited every mark of friendship—on my return, I found the people here in a State of Alarm, and an express had been sent to me—The information which excited the alarm is contained in the inclosed papers—I have just separated from the members of the Government, Capts Whistler, Dyson, & Heald of the United States Army, who are attending here on a Court Marshall, & the Field Officers of the militia, to whom I have communicated the information—The result of this consultation is only an injunction to preparation and vigilance—

In the course of a few days, the Chiefs of the different Nations will assemble here—I hope to make an advantageous treaty.—This Shawanese Prophet is certainly gaining influence, and what the consequences may be, it is difficult to determine—How far he is encouraged by any foreign Nation, or individuals of our own, is mere conjecture on my part—

Heretofore I have thought, it was most expedient to treat him & his principles with neglect—He is however under the protection of the United States, and even lives on lands at Greenville, belonging to the United States—Should he inculcate principles hostile to the views & interests of the Government, he ought to be apprehended & punished—I presume the Shawanese will soon remove from Greenville, and where he will fix his residence, I know not. The speech of his herald was undoubtedly written by some person in the interest of the British Government, and opposed to ours—

The unsettled state of things between the two governments, and some local circumstances, such as the desertion of the Negroes of some of the most influential Inhabitants on the British shore, has made impressions, different from what before existed—

In the present state of things however, I do not believe, they will excite the Indians to hostility against us—

In my negotiations with the Indians, I shall not press them to anything, which may be a source of Complaint or difficulty hereafter.

They shall fully understand every thing they do, and on their part, it shall be entirely voluntary—It will be better to delay a treaty for the purchase of the lands, than to make one, which will be productive of future difficulties—

The principal Chief from Saguina, has just returned home, from a visit to the Prophet,—He undoubtedly has been advised not to consent to the sale of any lands.—I am however certain, neither he, or any of the Chiefs

dictated the inclosed speech. It was written by one Gouin a British Trader, and according to his own wishes—I have sent an interpreter to explain everything to them — — —

I am respectfully
your most obedt Servt
WILLIAM HULL

To the Secretary of War.

CAPT. J. DUNHAM TO WILLIAM HULL

[Enclosure in Hull to Dearborn, June 22]

Fort Michillimakinak June 18. 1807

Sir

Immediately on the receipt of your Excellencys favor of the 29th of April I summoned together the Chiefs of the Chippeway and Ottawa Tribes and laid before them the Subject of your Letter, respecting the Council, or Treaty to be holden at Detroit—They decided instantly and unanimously *not to attend the Council* nor to have anything to do with alienating their Lands—They say that "Our Brethren below are forgetting their Children"—but said they "If they are fools enough to throw away their hunting ground, let them do it—We however in this quarter will do no such thing—And we hope My Father you will not think of taking one hands breadth of our Lands for we have not so much to spare"

In short they appear to be much alarmed on the subject and indicate a disposition by no means friendly—I believe they have been *tampered with;* and I suspect

some unauthorized individuals of a neighboring Nation are endeavoring to throw obstacles in the way of the intended Treaty— — — — — — — — — — — — — —

Still however these people conceive themselves entitled to their share of the *Annuities* as they were many of them present at Wayns Treaty received Medals &c and have been promised repeatedly that they should come on to share here both by General Wilkinson and General Tracy, and they also recollect that your Excellency was good enough to renew this promise last fall—When they shrewdly asked me "*If I thought the word of their Great Father at Detroit was any better than Gen. Wilkinsons word*"—I told them your Excellency would make them no promises, but what you *could* and *would* fulfill—And of course they are now calculating fully on receiving the *whole* for this year—And should they be disappointed again, they will say we are *all liars* and that no faith can be put in the American Government—Your Excellency will easily appreciate the importance of preventing an impression so derogatory to our National Character ever on the Minds of Unenlightened Savages

With Sentiments of the highest
Respect and Consideration I have the
Honor to be
Sir
Your Excellency's
Most Obent and
Very Humble Servt

J. Dunham

Indians at Saguina to William Hull

[Enclosure in Hull to Dearborn, June 22]

A Memorandum of a Council held at Saguina on the fifth of June 1807 — —

We are requested by all the Chiefs of this place, to inform you of the following Council

Our Father, when we was to see you, you told us that we should love our Lands, you told us that our Children will be Men, before you will think of buying our Lands— At present we hear the birds bring us bad news, we always think of what you told us about the Lands. We take courage, the last summer you called us and told us to take courage, and not to sell our Lands—But at present we hear the bad birds speak about the Lands—We think all the Indians, all Women, all the Children and young Men, they are surprised that you do not hold to your word—We was not drunk nor foolish when General Wayne told us to love our Lands and that we were fools if we would sell our Lands—We always keep his good Council in remembrance—We will never sell our Lands because we see the paths of our first Fathers— We will be charitable to our Children—When the French People came here they told us to take care of our Island—We always take care of it, and will take care of it always

Our Father we understand that you would buy our Lands at Saguina—We will not sell our Lands or give them—We think that you would do better to stay at Detroit and us here, because we love our Women and Children and young Men, and if you should come here

against the Indians, the young men perhaps kill your cattle, you will put us in jail and that would trouble us and perhaps we will get angry

Our Father I think that we will not get Lands if we sell our lands here. It is for that reason, that we love our lands here for our Women Children and young men

We always take care of the principle of the [?] that commanded us to take care of our Lands Never think to get them, one of us that you wanted to buy our Lands, he told us and that we are all in the same opinion, not to sell them—We love our lands and that we will never agree to sell them, We think that you wish to seduce our Women Children and young men miserable You American—

Never think to come on the Saguina ground because you will make us angry—

Almighty God gave us this Land for us to serve, but not for us to sell—Think never to buy them for it is not of any use—

Our Father we are not ignorant of him that wishes to sell you our Lands—But dont Believe him, it is not his Lands here, He does not belong to us, We hope to see him that always speak about selling our Lands—dont believe him—Because if it belonged to him we would see him—We will see him perhaps and he will know us—

Give us our Answer by the Bearer if it is true that you wish to buy our Lands, or not, You loose your time about thinking of buying our Lands—We never will agree to sell or give them, stay at Detroit and We will stay here

To Govenor Willliam Hull Esqr
Detroit

Hull to Dearborn

Sir— Detroit 25th June 1807.

I have the honor to enclose you the paper accompanying this, at the request of Mr Robert Foresyth, and some other Gentlemen—

Mr Foresyth is a Gentleman of good understanding, and I believe of strict integrity, and well acquainted with Indian Affairs.

I am informed, Governor Harrison, Mr. Jouett, and some other Gentlemen will write you on the subject—

Should you wish for any information, or Opinion on the subject, your request will be readily complied with—

I am respectfully, your
most obedt Servt

Secretary of War. William Hull

Robert Forsyth to William Hull

[Enclosure in Hull to Dearborn, June 25]

Detroit 1st May 1807—

To His Excellency Governor Hull

Sir

I have been given to understand by Charles Jouet Esqr of Chicago, that the United States have it in Contemplation, to Establish a Factory or Indian Trading House at Green Bay, the inlet from Fox River into Lake Michigan, having many years past been pretty largely Concerned in the Indian Trade and having a pretty Correct Geographical Knowledge of all that part of the Country,

I have presumed to offer myself as a Candidate for the appointment and shall Consider myself under many obligations to your Excellency if from the Knowledge you have of my Character you can find it consistant with your Own Correct views of propriety to recommend me to the President of the United States as a Suitable Character to fill such an office if such there is to be—I have also presumed to give you a Short Sketch of the Situation and rising prosperity of this Country to the United States. The Bay itself is a large inlet to Lake Michigan, at the mouth of which is a Chain of Islands that extend nearly from One Side to the other, I am not acquainted with the depth of water, but presume that it would admit vessels of a Certain Tonnage, to proceed up it sufficiently to be Secure from danger and a Safe Harbour.—

From its Situation being the only navigable rout at all times to be depended upon from this Country to the Mississippi, it must in no distant period become a Country of Some Consequence to the United States, particularly as all the Trade that is pursued on the Rivers Mississippi Missouri St. Peter and Lemoin must pass at the Bay & proceed up the Fox River, with a Short portage or carrying place to the Ouisconsin, which is a river of Considerable length, being two hundred and Forty miles from the Portage to the Mississippi—There was established during the French Government a Small Fort at Green Bay for the Protection of their Traders which many years since has been done away—There are a number of Indians frequents that place during the whole of the year, from whom is received in Barter or trade a Considerable quantity of the first quality of

Furs and Skins, it lays at the distance of one hundred and Sixty to one hundred and Seventy miles north of Chicageau and about Two hundred & Sixty from Michilimackinac—from the quantity of Merchandise that is transported by the Makinac merchants to the Mississippi by the route of Green Bay, I have no doubt but that Government will find it for their Interest to Establish a Deputy Collector at that post Ere long for the further Security of Duties, as the principal merchants in that Trade are British Subjects and I have it from undoubted authority they intend to Remove themselves from Makinac to the Island of St Josephs, from which place they propose making their Outlets to the Mississippi Misouri &c &c—

As the United States (I have no doubt) wish a fair and not u[n]profitable return for any Goods they may send on to be Traded with the Indian Tribes—I would Recommend an Establishment to be made at the Green Bay, where I am certain if a Factory was Established and properly Conducted, would be of advantage to the Interest of the United States, It would be of little or no additional expence to the Government for the vessell going on to Chicageaun, for the product of that post to Stop at Green Bay and embark what property might be there for the United States. The Same in transporting of Merchandise to the respective posts—This please Your Excellency is my ideas on the Subject of a Factory being Established at that Post and which I hope you will find Correct, & meet your ideas—

I have the Honor to be your Excellency's Most Obt
& Hble Servant

Robt Forsyth

Capt. J. Whistler to Henry Dearborn

Fort Detroit 2nd July 1807

Sir

I had the honor of receiving your Letter of the fourteenth of Apl last and shall pay particular attention there to, on my return to Fort Dearborn

Sir

I have the honor to be

Your very Humb Ser

J. Whistler Capt

The Honorabl Henry Dearbn
Secretary of War

Elijah Brush to Henry Dearborn

Detroit July 3rd 1807

The Honble Henry Dearborn Esqr

Inclosed Sir you will receive the Record and proceeding of the Court Martial for the Trial of Wm C Smith surgeons Mate and two other prisoners which terminated on the 29th. of June last together with an account of my own for services rendered the said Court as Judge Advocate—

I have the honour to subscribe myselfe with very great respect—

Your Obedt very Humble
Servt E Brush

From Samuel T. Dyson and Daniel Baker

At the Request of Governor Hull we have examined the Indian Council House at Detroit. It is built of good Stone, and according to the plan annexed. The second Story will make a large and good store Room for the Indian Annuities and Stores.

There are fourteen Windows in it.

We think It a very valuable building, placed in a very proper and valuable situation, and considering the price of labor, and materials, it is our opinion it has been built with great economy, the Governor having informed us that it has cost only seventeen hundred sixty one dollars in its present state.

Detroit July 4: 1807

Saml T. Dyson
Capt of A
Daniel Baker.

Hull to Dearborn

Sir Detroit July 4, 1807

I have the Honor to enclose a plan of the Council House for the Indian department, and I cannot but hope my conduct in building it in the manner I have, will meet with your approbation. I have called on Mr. Baker and am ready to pay him for all the materials I have received from the public, for which he has my Receipts— As I observed to you, I have paid the Ottawas, the whole

of their money, and shall pay the Wyandots, as soon as they are prepared to receive it.—I know of no other difficulties excepting an agreement with the Delewares, Munsees and Shawanese for their proportions—A part of them are now here, and I expect the whole in a few days —The moment this can be settled, I will forward my Accounts according to the advice of the Accountant

The Council House in its present state has cost seventeen hundred and sixty one Dollars, and I have been under the necessity of drawing on you for a part of the pay, in favor of the Workmen—I have noted on the Bills, the purposes for which they are drawn—The Chiefs of the different Nations are now here, to attend the Treaty, and I shall do all in my power to promote the public Interest

I am Respectfully, your most
Obedient Servant
WILLIAM HULL.

Honorable H. Dearborn Esqr.
Secretary of War

HULL TO [DEARBORN?]

Sir Detroit 4th July 1807—

Mr. Smith, whom I sent to Saguina, has this moment returned—He delivered to the Chiefs, the Speech, Wampum and Tobacco, which I sent them The Speech, was an invitation for them to come and see me, where they would meet the Chiefs of their Nation, and some of the other Nations That It was by the desire of their Great Father the President—

They refused to come—They say, they are a large portion of the Chippewa Nation. That since the Treaty of Greenville, they have recd but a small proportion of the Annuities—

That a great part has been paid to the farmers (that is to the White People) for stolen property, and this year, they may have the whole, that they will not come and receive anything—That there are some bad Indians, who wish to sell their Lands, and they *warn* them against it—That about three hundred Warriors, were assembled there—That about thirty of them were in favor of taking up the Hatchet—That they were dancing the War-Dance, and in fact had the Scalp of a White Man—

One great Cause of this uneasiness, is a Jealousy of Machonce—They think he has obtained more than his proportion of Annuities &c heretofore—The Brother of the Man killed by Machonce was among the most violent at Saguina—I shall immediately assemble the Chiefs here, and after holding a Council with them, determine on my measures—4th July, 2 o'clock P. M. I have just returned from reviewing the Militia—The Legionary Corps and the first Regt formed the parade—I am extremely gratified at the appearance and Soldierlike Conduct of the Troops—Indeed I never was more so—The Chiefs of the Ottawas, Chippewas, and Potawatamies attended—I formed the Line in a Rank entire, and it was very extensive—The Chiefs and many of the Warriors, with the Military Officers, caled on me after the parade —We smoaked a friendly pipe—I explained to them the cause of the parade—That It was not a day of business but of Joy—I hinted to them, my regret at the Conduct of their Brothers at Saguina—That they were under

the protection of the United States, and that they always ought to attend to the call of their Father

The Chiefs expressed equal regret, and proposed sending some influential Indian immediately to induce them to come in—

In this business their will be many difficulties but I hope to surmount them Patience and perseverance I expect will effect our Object—In any event, however, I shall do nothing, which will be a reasonable source of future difficulties—I have directed the Chiefs to call on me tomorrow Morning, when I shall take some measures about Saguina I am called to partake of the festivities of the day and Am Respectfully

Yours
William Hull

Hull to Dearborn

Sir Detroit July 11th 1807.

The Brig has arrived with the Annuities for the present year—I have received them and they are safely lodged in the Store Room in the Council House—None of them has as yet been opened, but to all appearance they are in good order—

The Chi[e]fs of the Ottawa Nation are now all here—The principal part of the Chipewa's, Wyandots and a part of the Potawatamies, attending the Treaty—Altho' their is a great deal of secret influence making against it, and much unjustifiable conduct, yet, Sir, I have reason to believe it will be accomplished in a manner advantageous to the United States and satisfactory to the Indians

—I expect the Saguina Chiefs here in a day or two—The great difficulty with them has been a jealousy of Machonce.

I have treated him in a manner that they will be satisfied—I have no partiality to him. It is impossible to limit the numbers as you wished—I have taken every suitable means to do it—There are now here about four hundred—About twenty Chiefs—On account of the expense, I am very desirous of bringing it to a close, yet I find it impossible to hurry it—They are slow in their deliberations—

They are perfectly friendly and have conducted with the most perfect good order. I give them but little Spirits, but the weather being warm, I have constantly prepared for them Ice water, with sugar or molasses, and about a quart of cyder to a Gallon of Water—This Liquor they are very fond of—I give them what Tobacco they want—This is bought at a very extravagant price—

I have Received information from Michillimakinak as late as six days—Everything was quiet there

The difficulty at Saguina, was very much exagerated—I hope soon to give a favorable account of everything here I regret that Iron, Steel and Tobacco were not sent for the department—I must purchase them at a very extravagant price

The Black-smith and Gun-smith have more work than they can possibly do

I am very Respectfully
your Most Obedient and
Very Humble Servant

Honore H Dearborn Esqr
Secretary of War

William Hull

Hull to Dearborn

Sir Detroit 14th July. 1807—

I enclose an extract of a Letter I have received from Mr Joseph Watson, dated Michilimackinac the 8th of July—

Mr Franks is said to be one of the first traders in that Country, and a Man of good Character—

The Campden, one of the Kings Vessels, will sail in a day or two for St Josephs, with the principal Indian Agents, and large quantities of presents for the Indians —The Governor of Upper Canada is on his way to that place, by another rout—It is said all the Northern Indians are to be collected there—The British are likewise strengthening their posts in this quarter—I do not know how our relations stand with Great Brittain, or what has caused their present arrangements here

I am Respectfully your
Most Obedt Servt

To the Secretary
of War— William Hull

Hull to Dearborn

Sir Detroit 15th July 1807

I have received your two letters of the 9th & 16th of June—I regret that it is thought, I have adopted too expensive a system in the Indian department—I supposed I was acting in conformity to the views of the

Government—It is only necessary for me to know their wish, to pursue it As to provisions to the Indians, I am thought here very parsimonious—In future I will be more so, and only give them what shall be absolutely necessary—In every other article of expense, I will adopt the same rule—The accountant has desired me to send on the Origonal orders or due bills, which I gave to the Indians for their provisions, distinguishing the Nations—I never conceived it necessary to distinguish the nations, and always gave my orders, for such a quantity of provisions for the Indian Department—These were mere vouchers for the Contractors to make their Abstracts—When those abstracts were made, after comparing them I signed them—After this I considered those orders of no consequence, and have taken no care in the preservation of them—They were thrown loose in my drawer, and if you deem it necessary, I will send them on in the best state I can—They were only orders generally for bread, meat &c for the Indian Department, and the aggregate of them, a representation of what was contained in the abstract—It was frequently the case, when the Indians went to the store, that it was shut—This produced a great inconvenience—The Indians would sell their order for what was worse than nothing—To obviate this difficulty, I have frequently given orders directly on the Bakers for bread, which the agent for the Contractors have taken up, and included in the abstract—I have likewise kept some pork and whiskey of the Contractors in my own cellar, to deliver when they were ready to go [to] their villages, and the store was not opened—The whisky is for their sick, their funerals, festivals, and to wipe off their grief, after the death of

their relations—These things are established by ancient custom. This arrangement has been a great convenience to them, and only attended with some trouble to me—For the faithfull manner in which this trust has been executed, I am satisfied in my own mind. any other arrangement however you shall propose, I shall be satisfied to adopt in future. I cannot see that the original order can be any check, as the Indians have never given receipts for their provisions—If you should think it most advisable that they should give receipts and those receipts sent on as vouchers, it can be done, attended with some difficulty—In doing the Indian business, I have no Clerk and must do it all myself—I have found it necessary to make it as simple as possible—

I am respectfully your most
Obet Servt
William Hull

Secretary of war.

Hull to Dearborn

Sir Detroit 23rd July 1807

I have delivered the Annuities for the present year, to the Ottawa, Chippewa and Wyandot Nations. The Chifs of the Shawanoes have not called for theirs—They are ready for them in the Store, and part of the Council House—To the Ottawas and Wyandots I delivered, the whole in casks & Boxes, and the Chiefs made the distribution—It has been done I believe in a just and satisfactory manner—

The Chippewas requested me to make the division

which I have done in a very public, and I believe satisfactory manner... The goods were of an excellent quality, and they are much pleased... I desired Judge Fisher, who has been a trader here, to take the Invoices, and make an estimate of the value of such goods, as they are here sold—He accordingly did, and reported, that the $1000 of goods to the Chippewas, could not be purchased under $1700—This was fully explained to them, and I believe they will not ask for money .... I am satisfyed it will not be for their interest to receive Money—

By the last Mail, I received a Letter of the 30th of June, from Mr J. Smith, in your absence, inform[ing] me that arrangements were made with Genl Gansevoort, to remit to me the money in Specie to make the payments, for the present Year, under the Treaty of Fort Industry —I was happy to receive this information. As soon as it arrives it shall be paid in the most public manner—I wish it may be in dollars—

The one half of the 285 dollars, which I had detained from the Pottawatamies, to pay Davis & Shaw, has been sent to Mr Jouett and the other half, I have paid to the Chiefs of that Nation here.—

In one or two days, I expect all the Chifs of the Wyandots here—The Crane and those from Sanduskey are now at Maguago—They will be paid in Specie the moment they are ready—The whole, will then have been paid excepting a proportion to a Saguina Chief and his Tribe, for which he has never called, since the Bills have been exchanged into Specie, and now says the Prophet has instructed him, to receive neither Money, nor Goods from the Americans.—I have however reserved his proportion of the goods for the present year

and if he does not soon call, I shall deliver both Money and Goods to the other Chifs

I am very Respectfully Your
Most Obedient Servant

To the Secretary of War WILLIAM HULL.

HULL TO DEARBORN

Sir Detroit 25th July 1807

In my former Letter, I informed you that the Governor of Upper Canada, and the principal Agents of the Indian department had gone to St Josep[h]s, where was to be a large assembly of Indians—

By the present Mail, I have received the information contained in the public papers, respecting the Chesapeak I perceive that much sensibility and indignation are excited, as is natural to be imagined, among our fellow Citizens—The measures of the government will be prudent, but firm, and such as will maintain the public Interest—You cannot be insensible to our situation here —In the neighbourhood of a British Garrison, and settlements, and accessible to vast bodies of Indians, on whose friendship and fidelity, it is impossible to make any certain calculations, seperated by an extensive Wilderness from any settlements, which could reasonably afford us aid, We have only to depend on our own exertions for safety—

The last information, with respect to the Indians at Green Bay, Lake Superior, the Northern parts of Lake Michigan, and in all that extensive Region is very unfavorable—The best informed men have satisfied Capt

Dunham, who Commands at Michilimackinac, that their intentions are hostile to the U. States, and they are meditating to strike upon the Americans somewhere— It is said to be in consequence of the influence and advice, they have received from their Prophet—The advice is for all the Nations to form a League, disconnect themselves with the White People and resume their ancient habits and mode of living—It appears to me impossible that this Man could make the influence and produce the effects, which have appeared—

The foundation of this business I am not able to develope—Some think he is a tool of Brants—Others that he is moved by Spanish or French influence, and others that he derives all his influence from his own arrangements & enthusiasms—Let it be what source it may, it seems all directed against the U. States—in the event of a War with Great Britian, there can be little doubt, but every effort will be made to call in the aid of this League and the other Savages who have not joined it—And whenever they see a prospect of War, they will undoubtedly endeavor to prepare them for hostility, and it would not be strange, if it should be actually committed—

The Ottawas, Chippewas, Wyandots and Potawatamies in this neighborhood, extending from Sanduskey, to Lake Huron, and as far back as the sources of the Rivers which run east, have exhibited to me every mark of friendship to the U. States, by their expressions and conduct—I am myself disposed to consider them sincere—Others however, who have had a longer acquaintance with them, think differently, and that they will prove deceitful, and join the British Standard in the

event of a War—Many of them however, I am satisfied will not—The most of them I am convinced would wish to remain neuter—Some of them have been led away by the folly of their Prophet, but they are now generally abandoning him & his principles—

In case of Hostility, or a necessity of preparing for defence, I hope to receive instructions from the Government—Some expense will be necessary in making preparations for defence—Neither Congress nor this Government, have made any provision for the former expense, which was incur'd, when Griswold administered the Government; and it has been paid by Individuals. . . —

Powder, Ball and flints will be esentially necessary and Articles, which cannot be procurd in this Country I would suggest the expediency of giving orders to the Commanding Officers here, for such quantities as may be necessary for the Militia, in case of Hostility, or a probable cause of it. I likewise suggest the expediency of an arrangement with the Governor of the State of Ohio, of affording aid to this Country whenever he shall be informed that it is necessary—

I shall, Sir, devote my best talents to the safety and Interest of this part of the U. States and I am happy to inform you, that the late insult which has been offered to the Nation, and the threatening appearances here, has inspired a Laudable and patriotic Spirit—A Number of young Men are associating, and in a short time, I expect to see them formed into a Respectable light Infantry Company—

While I have the pleasure of giving you this information, I think it my duty to communicate, that a most contemptible faction has been formed, headed by British

Subjects and foreigners, who have no attachment to the United States, and who by false representations, are endeavoring to deceive the People, and opposing every measure of the Government—I regret that truth obliges me to say, that the Secretary of the Territory & the Receiver of public Monies, attend their Meetings, and appear to patronize their Measures—The object is too plain to require any explanation and I view the Leaders with too much contempt, to take any measures to counteract it— I am Respectfully, your Most

Obedient Humble Servt

William Hull

P. S. I have lately been informed, that the British Agents, with Governor Gore intend to visit some of the Indian Villages, near Michilimackinac in this Territory—

I am likewise informed that the Militia opposite to us, have within a few days been furnished with Powder and Ball, and are making great preperations—Indeed, Sir, under the present appearance of things, I do believe that a very considerable addition to the force here is absolutely necessary for the public safety—With our present force events probably will take place, by which this part of the Country will be in a most perilous situation— W H.

Hull to Dearborn

Sir— Detroit 29th July 1807.

I have the honor to enclose the patriotic resolutions of the Citizens of the Territory of Michigan—In the present critical situation of our national affairs, I join with them in sentiment, that an additional military force is

indispensibly necessary for the safety of this part of the United States—

An authority to call into actual service the whole or a part of the Militia at the expense of the U. S. I should think would likewise be an expedient measure—In my opinion it is likewise necessary to build a number of Block houses for the defense of this Town and the Settlements in the Territory––

I should further deem it expedient to build a Battery on the Bank, between the Fort and the River, as the present Fort has no bearing on the River—

I am respectfully your
Most Obedt Servt

Secretary of War. William Hull.

Resolutions Passed for the Protection of the Territory of Michigan

[Enclosure in Hull to Dearborn, July 29]

At a Meeting of the Citizens of the Territory of Michigan, held at Detroit, on the 25th of July Inst 1807. Stanley Griswold Esqr in the Chair and James Abbott Esqr Secretary

Resolved Unanimously—That taking into serious consideration the repeated Attempts of Our Government, to obtain redress and adjust our differences with the Government of Great Britian; and finding that all our endeavors have hitherto been fruitless; and viewing with deep regret, and serious apprehensions, the late daring and outrageous attack of the Leopard, a British Man of War, on our Armed Vessel the Chesepeak within our

shores; We view this wanton, barbarous and daring attack on the Chesepeak by a British Man of War, with horror and detestation, and We pledge our Lives and property to cooperate with our Government, in such measures as they shall adopt for redress or Vengence—
Resolved Unanimously—That prompt and efficient measures be recommended to the Commander in Chief of this Territory, for the safety of its Inhabitants, by preparing and properly arming and equipping Militia for efficient duty.
Resolved Unanimously—That any attack from the Indians upon our settlements, shall be considered as actuated by the British Government and that We shall act accordingly—
Resolved Unanimously—That it be recommended to the Commander in Chief, to request an additional supply of Regular Troops for the safety and defens of this Territory

Hull to Dearborn

Sir Detroit 29th July 1807—

I have now paid the Wyandots &c the thousand Dollars due to them the last year under the Treaty of Fort Industry—It was all paid in Silver & Gold, excepting fifty three dollars, which was in Bills of the Bank of the U. States

They have agreed that the proportions to the Delawares, Munsees and such of the Shawanoes and Senecas as reside among them, shall be in proportion to their numbers, and I have approved of this agreement—
Chiefs were present of all the Nations, excepting the

Shawanoes—The Crane, Leather Lips &c &c from Sanduskey—

They likewise made an agreement, that those of Upper and Lower Sandusky and in that neighborhood, should receive the whole of the Money, for the last year, and It was accordingly paid to them—

Those at Browns Town, Maguago &c are to receive the whole for the present year when It arrives—They are in the same practise, with respect to their Annuities———

I am very Respectfully

Your Most Obedient Servant

Secretary of war. WILLIAM HULL

HULL TO DEARBORN

Sir Detroit Augt 4th 1807—

I have the Honor to enclose you a Copy of a Letter from Lieut Colo Elijah Brush, Commandt of the Legionary Corps, offering their services as volunteers, agreeably to the Act of Congress, authorizing the President, to accept the services of Volunteer Companies not exceeding thirty thousand Men—And my answer to the same— — — —

The Corps consists of One Company of Cavalry
One - do - of Artillery
One - do - of Light Infantry
One - do - of Rifle Men

The Names of the Officers are as follows
Elijah Brush Lieut Colo Commandt
John Whipple—Major
Abijah Hull Adjutant

Cavalry
Richard Smith Capt
Gabriel Godfroy Lieut
William Russell Comt
Artillery.
James Dodemead Capt
Henry Jackson Hunt 1st Lieut
Leonard Brooks,—2nd Lieut
Light Infantry.
Harris Hampden Hickman Capt
John Watson—Lieut.
John Conner Ensign
Rifle Company
William McDowel Scott Capt
Antoine Dequindie Jr Lieut
John Palmer Ensign

From present appearances, the services of this Corps will soon be necessary—I hope immediately to receive orders on the Subject of the defence of this Country

I am Respectfully Your
Most Obedient Servant
WILLIAM HULL

To the Secretary of War

ELIJAH BRUSH TO HULL

[Enclosure in Hull to Dearborn, Aug. 4]

To William Hull Governor of Michigan

Sir, Notwithstanding the very violent and lawless opposition that has been made by the Secretary of the Ter-

ritory, and his unprincipled adherents (for the most part the off cast of that Nation with whom we are now at variance) on the first Instant, and at the very time and place that I had appointed to beat up for volunteers for a new light Infantry Company to be attached to the Legionary Corps, now under my Command; I have nevertheless the satisfaction to inform your Excellency, that on this occasion has been exhibited, by young Men of the Town, in less than fifteen Minutes a light Infantry Company was raised, that will never fail to command and respect and do honor to their Country

I have now Sir, the satisfaction through you of presenting to my Country the services of the Legionary Corps under my command, consisting (as you will know) of one Company of Cavalry, one of Artillery (but which however is not yet filled) one of Light Infantry and one of Rifle Men, who will be ready at a moments warning to take the field in the defence of their Country, clothed and equiped with armes suited to the occasion of each Company; and who (should the Government think proper to require their services) I trust in God and in the honor of my Corps, will on every occasion, exhibit and maintain that undaunted and proud Spirit which gave birth to their Independence— —

Detroit 3rd July 1807—
Signed E Brush Lieut Colo
Commandant of the Legionary Corps - - -

William Hull to Elijah Brush

[Enclosure in Hull to Dearborn, Aug. 4]

Detroit 3 Augt 1807—

Lieut Colo E Brush
Commandant of the
Legionary Corps—

Sir I have received your Letter of this date, informing me of the Patriotic Conduct of my fellow Citizens, in forming a Light Infantry Company and of the Legionary Corps in offering their services to their Country—

You will please Sir, to present my thanks to my fellow Citizens, composing the Corps, and assure them, I am highly gratifyed with the patriotic Spirit they have exhibited—It shall be immediately communicated to the President of the United States, and I am confident he will be inspired with the same feelings—

At this critical junction of our public Affairs and situated on this remote frontier it will be more highly estimated, and considered as an example worthy alone the Character of Freemen.—

Indeed it is the highest possible evidence of disinterested patriotism—I feel the fullest Confidence that this respectable Corps, will prove by their conduct the sincerity of this honorable pledge, and If they should be called to the defence of their Country, they will display that Gallant & Noble Spirit, which distinguished the Heroes, who fought for the independence of their Country—

It is deeply to be regretted, that any Officer of the Territory should have opposed a measure, so indispens-

ibly necessary to the public safety, at this interesting Crisis

I am Respectfully Your
Most Obedient Servant—
Signed William Hull

Hull to Dearborn

Sir Detroit Augt 4: 1807—

In consequence of the present state of things, for the present, I shall not pursue the Object of the Treaty. The people in this Country are in a high state of alarm, on account of the Indians—This has principally arisen in consequence of a belief that We are on the eve of a War with Great Brittain—

I have called together the most intelligent French People, and those most connected with the Indians and they are of the opinion, that the Indians will be hostile to us, and are now preparing—

A considerable number of Indians have been called to Amherstburgh by Capt McKee, and I now have there a confidential Man, to give me information— — —

The Pottawatamies on the River Huron of Lake Erie, have very lately left their Villages, with their corn fields &c all standing, which is said to be an unusual circumstance at this season of the year—I have likewise a Letter from Mr. Jouett, enclosing an Affidavit of one Duchaine, a Man who lives with the Pottawatamies, and has an Indian wife & children and is said to be a friend to us, and a Man of truth—He states that the Pottawatamies on the River St Josephs, are unfriendly, and are

preparing to strike on some of our Posts and Settlements—

If I was to judge from my intercourse with the Indians of the different Nations, and the conversations I have lately had with all of them, I should suppose they were not disposed to be hostile—It is however well known they are treacherous, and that the British Government by their Agents have great influence over them—

I have stated to them every consideration, which I supposed would have influence, to induce them to remain quiet, and in all my Councils with them, they have not been pressed to sell an Acre of Land—It was left wholly to their own wishes, and this manner of treating the business was very pleasing to them—

In consequence of the very Critical situation of this Country, I have thought it my duty, to prepare to put this Territory and this Town particularly in the best possible state of defence—I am beginning a Stockade from the north-eastern Angle of the Fort, to enclose the whole of the north part of the Town, and to extend to the River, on which I am preparing to build a Number of Block Houses—Likewise a Stockkade from the south angle, to enclose the old Block-House & a strong Stone House, near the Block-House, and so to the River—It is likewise my intention to establish some Batteries to command the Water—

Since writing the above I have received Letters from Capt Dunham, of the 23rd of July—He is decidedly of the opinion that the Indians in that Country, and as far back as the Mississippi are disposed to be Hostile, and are preparing to strike on us—I hope the preperations

I am making will be approved by the Government—Our situation is critical, and my determination is to do all in my power, in any event for safety and protection—From all the information I have been able to collect, I am really of the opinion, that our Settlements and Posts, will soon be attacked in some quarter—I hope, Sir immediate and decided measures will be taken by the General Government, for the defence of these frontier Settlements—An authority to call into actual Service, the Companies who have offered their Services as Volunteers, appears to be absolutely necessary—Great exertions are making by the British, opposite to us, and they are sending all their valuable property to Amherstburgh—You must be sensible of our feeble state, and in case the Indians should be induced to attack us, how difficult it will be to make a defence—

I am Respectfully Your Most
Obedient Servant—

To the Secretary of War — William Hull

Hull to Samuel T. Dyson

Capt Dyson — Detroit 6th. Augt. 1807

Sir

In my opinion the State of things are such, that it is necessary the Militia should be immediately furnished with Ammunition and Flints—

I therefore request you to deliver to the Quarter Master General four hundred Dozen Musket Ball Cartriges and eight hundred Flints, Likewise one hundred pounds

of Buck Shot, and one hundred pounds of Bar Lead as the Guns are of Different Calibres—

I am respectfuly
Your Obt. Servant
(Signed) William Hull Governor
of the Territory of Michigan

The Assistant Military Agent will Issue on the above requisition 112 doz. Ball Cartriges 57½ lbs. Bar Lead 50 lbs. Buck Shot & fifty dozen flints———

(Signed) Saml T. Dyson
Capt Comdy—

Fort Detroit
6th August 1807

Samuel T. Dyson to Henry Dearborn

Sir Fort Detroit 11th August 1807

The probability of an Indian war, as also with our neighbours on the other shore, I have been induced to deliver the quantity of amunition you will find stated on the enclosed document for the use of the Militia of the Territory at the request of Governor Hull. I do not feel authorized to continue to do so, without your orders. I therefore pray your instructions on the subject, which will govern my conduct in future. I presume his Excellency has stated to you all the information he possesses on the subject of an Indian War

I have the honor to be Sir
Very Respectfully
Your Obedt Servt
Saml T. Dyson
Capt of A

The Honbl
Secy of War

Receipt George McDougall

Recd of Lt. Daniel Baker Assistant Military Agent agreeable to the Within Order one hundred & twelve dozen Ball Cartriges fifty seven and ½ lbs. of Lead fifty pounds Buck Shot & fifty dozen flints—

Signed Duplicates
(Signed) Geo. McDougall
Fort Detroit Qr Mr Gl [?]
August 6, 1807—

The above is a true coppy from the original now in my Possession

Daniel Baker
Fort Detroit, Lieut.
August 12th, 1807.

From A. B. Woodward

Detroit, aug. 12, 1807.

I have the honor to transmit a second map of Canada, and a topographical analysis. The cost of the whole has been nine dollars. I received ten, and in order to be exact I beg your permission to return one, which is enclosed.

Still further reports have reached us on the subject of indian hostilities. I have endeavored as heretofore to investigate them. These details will be constantly reaching the government from other sources. I only give my impressions in order that the government may

be enabled to compare the sentiments of a variety of observers. The latter reports I believe more frivolous than the first. I approve the supplying the militia with arms, and ammunition, and instructing them in discipline. To all of these I contribute my best exertions. I condemn the fortification of the town as a useless, expensive, and prejudical measure.

I have the honor to tender my assurances of perfect respect.

A. B. Woodward.

Reports of Indian Alarms

[Enclosure in A. B. Woodward's letter, Aug. 12]

Detroit, august 14, 1807,

The mail being detained two days later than usual I have thought it not amiss to give you a specification of the reports which have successively agitated the panic-struck inhabitants of this place.

I.

A report that the Indians on the head waters of the Huron River of Lake Erie had abandoned their settlements in an unusual manner, plainly indicating hostilities, had removed their wives and children, and might be momently expected to make an attack.

I proposed to go to the spot the same day and examine into the facts. This was declined and fortifying prepared. The next day I met with a young man, an Indian, from these settlements. He stated that his village had all gone on a visit to the prophet at Greeneville,

were pacific, would soon return, that he should have gone with the others, but being sick they left him, and he had come in to spend among us the time of their absence.

II.

Letters, depositions, and reports from Michillimackinac, tending to shew that the conduct of the Indians was unusual, and to express the apprehensions of particular individuals.

The conduct of the Indians is unusual. A little revolution is effecting among them. It is owing to two causes. First the interruption of their usual commercial transactions from the exclusion of the English from the continental market for furs. Second the bitter reproaches of their prophet for abandoning the manner and customs of their forefathers.

Impositions practised on them in their presents may be added. The influence of reports propogated among them relative to us, and the counter-action of our own alarms upon them, tend also to bewilder their minds.

Some of the persons alarmed are sincere in their impressions of fear, but the grounds on which they found their apprehensions are by far too vague and inconclusive to found any measures of considerable responsibility upon.

III.

Letters, depositions, and reports from Chicagou (fort dearborn).

An examination into characters has always dissipated these in my mind. The son of one of the most influential characters among the Poutawatomies on St. Joseph's, who are represented to be so hostile, resides in

the same house with me. Intelligent french gentlemen have given me assurances as to this quarter which I have fully relied on.

IV.

An alarm, at break of day, during last week, that the Indians had actually come. The militia turned out, marched to the spot from which the disturbance came, and it appeared to be no more than a drunken quarrel between a frenchman and a german and two indian women.

V.

Constant intimations from the British side of the river that we are in danger, and will soon be attacked.

The last report is the most formidable. The fort is to be attacked in the dead of the night by four hundred and fifty Indians, now encamped in the woods, some miles behind the British fortress of Amherstburgh. They are to use the tomahawk and scalping knife alone, and not to fire a gun, until they have taken the fort. As soon as this exploit is accomplished seven hundred and fifty Indians, now skulking behind us on our own side, are to enter the town and to put all to death, man woman child, French English American, giving quarter to none.

An anonymous writer, who is however known, kindly gives us notice of our danger.

Of all the idle talk on the subject this is the most impudent and [ms. defaced] A savage foe never have, and never will attempt such an exploit on a garrison like this. They cannot approach us in considerable numbers

without our having certain intelligence. Their inevitable defeat will be the consequence of any such attempt.

VI.

A report that the Indians of Saguina, in number five hundred, had landed ten miles above the town, and were marching upon us.

A young man who lives in the same house with me, and who is among those who are incredulous on this subject, instantly repaired to the spot, and ascertained its utter falsity.

The french settlers who know the Indians well, ridicule these silly apprehensions.

VIII.

The apprehensions of a war with Great Britain.

I have believed the present misunderstandings will eventually terminate in peace; and that our government will wisely avail itself of them to settle some principles on a more permanent basis than perhaps they ever could have been without them.

If we are to have a war I cannot believe that our government will neglect to authorize us to take immediately the British side of this strait from the lowest settlement to the river Thames or aux Trenches, an enterprize to which we are adequate, and which puts down forever all further Indian apprehensions. A thousand militia from Kentucky or Ohio would be necessary to secure the acquisition. The people of Vermont will take care of the country from Niagara to the St. Lawrence.

Permit me to renew Sir my assurances of perfect respect.

A. B. Woodward.

Volunteers in 1807

Detroit August 13th 1807

I certify that the following return of Persons, belonging to the first Regiment, desirous of associating themselves under the Act of Congress entitled "An Act* authorizing the President of the United States to accept the Services of Volunteer Companies not exceeding Thirty Thousand Men," has been made to me—

(Signed) A. B. Woodward
Commandant first Regt

Jacob Visgar, a Captain of the first Regt
James Anderson, the same
John Cissne, the same
Whitmore Knaggs, a Lieut of the same
Conrad Seek,—the same
John Ruland, an Ensign of the same
Isaac Ruland
Joseph Cissne
Abraham Gunner
Spencer Russell
Hugh MacNay
John MacComb
James Price
Isaac Jones
John Shags
William Cissne
Francois Delisle
James Decomp
A. B. Woodward

I certify that the within is a true Copy
deposited in my office
JAMES MAY
Adjutant General.

*The title of the Act is quoted from memory, not being at hand—

HULL TO DEARBORN

Detroit August 13th 1807.

Sir—

By all information I have received it appears the Indians about Michilimackinac, those on Lake Superior, Green Bay, and Lake Michigan, and the Chipawas at Saguina, are disposed to be unfriendly—I have sent speeches to all the nations in this Territory and its neighbourhood, and have done all in my power to secure their friendship—The British Government is very liberal in their presents to them, and their officers are taking all possible measures to attach them to their Interest.—I really believe they are meditating Hostilities upon us—The situation of the Frontier is such that I have thought it my duty to fortify this Town in the strongest manner possible agst Indians.

I have every day about one hundred of the Militia at work on the stockade and Block houses—I give my certificate for Pickets, Timber, and materials, and the workmen are fed by a subscription. Inclosed is a rough

sketch of the works—The Block houses are now in a state of defence, and a small part only of the Pickets are set—It will be ten or twelve days, before it will be possible to Complete the Pickets and Blockhouses—I have suggested to Capt Dyson the propriety of making one or two batteries on the bank for his heavy artillery—

Last evening the British ship Camden passed down this River, from St Josephs to Amherstburgh—it is said she was full of soldiers & Indians—I have found it necessary to employ a number of confidential men, to pass and repass to and from the Indian Villages to obtain information, and have engaged to compensate them—I find myself in a very disagreeable situation to be obliged constantly to incur expences for the public safety, for which no provision has been made—Believing myself it is absolutely necessary I feel confident it will be approved—On the British side they have draughted a proportion of their Militia, and are calling the Indians together in large bodies—I hope the President will accept the services of the Legionary Corps. It consists at present of about one hundred and forty privates. It is daily increasing. It is a very excellent Corps—With the militia I keep guards every night of about thirty men—The people from the out settlements are coming in here for safety—In the event of a war with England twelve or fifteen hundred men, would be in my opinion indispensibly necessary here—They would not only give security to the frontiers—but would be able to effect any other necessary objects—The sooner they are sent the more usefull—The British appear to be much alarmed at our preperations—I have assured them, the object is only to prepare for defence, and I shall prevent all collisions

with them as much as possible. Hitherto nothing unpleasant has taken place—They have taken affidavits of some observations I have made, which perhaps they may send to their minister—If they send only the truth it will be that if they excite the Indians to hostilities against us—and they actually commit hostilities on us, by their advice and assistance It will be considered as Hostilities committed by them and treated accordingly—

I have received information that Capt. McKee is collecting all the different nations of Indians at Amherstburgh—A large number have already arrived—In the event of a war they consider they have no other safety—In such an event I think it my duty to observe, that *prompt, decided* and *vigorous measures* ought to be taken, for the security of the Frontier and the Reduction of the Canada's—Such measures will at once give peace and safety to the Frontiers, and enable us to point all our force to the defence of the other vulnerable parts of our Country—If it should be delayed and the British should hold and reinforce the Canadas, our scattered settlements on the Frontiers would suffer incalculable evils—It is obvious the thing can be easily effected—It is now only to march and conquer—

I am respectfully your most
Obet Servt
William Hull.

Genl Dearborn
Secty of War—

P. S. I was not able to compleat an accurate plan—Have only enclosed a Sketch—By the next mail, you shall have an accurate plan—

Hull to Dearborn

Henry Dearborn Esqr Detroit 16th Augt 1807.
Secretary of War—

Sir—

Last Evening I received your confidential letter of the 30th of July, by an express from Cleveland—As he returns immediately, I avail myself of the opportunity to give you all the information I at present possess, on the points to which you allude—The Garrison at Amherstburg is commanded by Lieut Colo Grant, of the 41st Regt—It is situated on the Bank of the River Detroit, eighteen miles below this place.—The Bank of the River, where it stands, is about thirty feet above the surface of the water, and its position is about one hundred feet from the pitch of the Bank, where it falls suddenly to the River—The ground around it, is level and not more elevated, than that on which it stands.—The whole number of Troops stationed in it at present does not exceed one hundred. These are composed of the 41st Regt and a part of a Company of Artillery, commanded by a Lieut—

The part of the Fort next to the River, and to the Southward, is a strong high Parapet, made of solid Earth & Timber, with a deep ditch and strong high Cedar Pickets—The back part of the Fort is only high strong Pickets—It is well supplied with Artillery, but at present, I do not know the exact size & number of the Cannon—But there is no doubt as many and of such a size as can be used to advantage by the Troops, stationed for its defence—

Including the new Settlement, and extending South on Lake Erie, about twenty Miles from Amherstburg, and the Settlements above including those on the River Le Frenche, they probably have on their Rools, about thirteen hundred Militia—

These are composed of Canadians, Scotch, and a mixture of other Nations—many of those on the River Le Frenche are Americans; and some of them even now Americans in heart—Of these, it is my Opinion, not more than Eight hundred or one thousand, could be induced to take the field in the aid of the British Troops—There is likewise a Militia District between the new Settlement and Fort Erie, including long Point, commanded by Colo Tallbot, which might cooperate with the Troops at Amherstburg—I have at present little knowledge of the Post at St Josephs, which is situated on an Island in Lake Huron about twenty leagues north east from Michilimackinack. It is now commanded by Capt Muir of the 41st Regt and the number of Troops probably do not exceed fifty, including a small number of Artillerists—

On this Island there is no other Settlement, than men employed in the Indian department, a few Traders, & followers of the Army, and it is now becoming a place of resort, in the summer season, for the People engaged in the furr trade—There is no doubt, but they have as many Cannon, and of a suitable size, for defence, as could be of any use, for the number of Troops, stationed at the Post—

Last summer the military Head Quarters in Upper Canada, were removed from York to Niagara—Colo Brock of the 41st Regt commands them—This

Spring, Major Campbell was removed from his Command at St. Josephs, to command at York, the seat of the civil Government—I presume he still remains there —At present I cannot ascertain the number of men in those Garrisons—At the Block House at the mouth of Chipawa River, and at Fort Erie, they have subalterns commands—At Fort Erie they are building a very strong fort of Stone—Sixteen months ago when I was there, it was in a very incomplete state—I do not know its present State—It probably is or soon will be compleated— And I should suppose strong measures will be taken for its defence, as it has been built at an immense expence—with respect to the number of Militia, which could be called into Service to aid the British forces, in the defence of Niagara, York, Fort Erie, &c it would be difficult for me to form an Opinion—If they should prove loyal, it would be considerable.

You well know the vessels on these waters, belonging to the King, the northwest Company, &c are much more in number & strength, than ours—In the event of a war, they will be immediately armed, and not only render our communication for supplies, precarious, but will be able to injure our Settlements—Enable us however to march into their Country, and we will find supplies—

With respect to the Indians, I have taken every measure, which I deemed prudent, to undeceive them, and to impress them with both their duty and Interest— And I have the satisfaction to believe, it has not been without its effet—If there is any confidence to be placed in the most solemn declarations of the principal Chiefs, of the Wyandots, Ottaways, Potowatamies in this part of the Country, Chipaways, South of Saguina, they will

not join any Enemy, against us, unless absolutely compelled by the more powerful tribes to the North & West —I however except Machonce who is constantly receiving great favors from the British Government, and it is generally thought, no confidence is to be placed in him—No man however can express more attachment to our government, and he pretends great personal friendship to me— — — — —

I have thought it my duty in the present State of things to employ a number of the most influential french People in whom, I think confidence is to be placed, to go into their villages, explain to them both their duty & Interest, and give me every information of what is passing—

So alarming have been the appearances, from the north & west, that I have thought it my duty to render this Town as strong against Indians as possible—I shall send you a plan of the manner, in which the works have been laid out, and will be executed—They are all connected with the Fort and designed for the defense of the Town against Indians—The lower Story of the Block houses are twenty feet square, and the upper twenty three—They are built of solid White Oak timber, and Iron Six pounders will be immediately placed in them—

In case of an Attack, I shall place in the Block houses as many Men as will be necessary for their defence, against any Body of Indians—The other Troops will be a reserve to defend the Pickets, and in case of extremity to retire to the Fort for its defence—In the very first instance however I shall take care to supply Capt Dyson with a sufficient additional force, to render it secure in any event—While the Fort and Block houses are de-

fended, little injury can be done to the Town—If the Fort falls, everything falls with it—Therefore that will be the primary object—

I repeat, Sir, what I have before stated, that in the event of a war with England, or a strong probability of it, the vast importance of a strong force immediately in this Country—

If this place should be lost, it will probably be attended with great Sacrifice of lives, & certainly of public & private property, and the Indians would generally be encouraged to strike on our defenceless Settements—Before it could be regained, the Frontiers would suffer incalculable evils—The Indians about Michilimackinac, and to the Northward and westward, are numerous and powerful—At the present moment they seem to be under the influence of strange and unusual Opinions, which render them hostile to us—The prospect of a war with England will naturally draw their attention to this place, under an expectation of a supply of Arms, ammunition and provisions—In their course here they may compell those to join them, who otherwise would not be disposed—Indeed, Sir, we have it in our power to gain everything, and by delaying we may loose everything— —

Since writing the above, I am informed the Fort at St Josephs is only a Stockade, and is garrisoned by Sixty men—

When I receive more full & correct information, I will impart it— I am respectfully

your most

obedt Servt

William Hull.

P. S. We have a considerable Number of Deserters living on the River Le Frenche—They are very anxious to return under a Pardon—Every one that returns, makes a difference of two—Because they will be desperate agt us if they remain there—I hope the President will offer them a pardon—Perhaps this letter may be received before some of my others—The legionary Corps, consisting of a Company of Cavalry, one of Artillery, one of rifle Men, & one of light Infantry, have offered their Services to the President under the act of Congress—It is now an excellent Corps, and highly animated—It is all-important that their Services should be accepted—And in my opinion ordered immediately into actual Service —It now consists of about one hundred and forty principally in uniform, and in all other respects complete—It is commanded by Lt Colo Brush, & the late Capt Whipple is the Major—

I am &c

Wm Hull

The plan of the fortifications will be sent by the next mail—The money has not arrived from Albany for the Swan Creek Treaty, which I regret—It would be peculiarly usefull at this moment—W. H.

Capt. J. Whistler to Dearborn

Fort Dearborn 17th Augt 1807

Sir

Lieutinant Whistler (who commanded Fort Dearborn in my absence while at Detroit) had received the sheet-

ing from the Factor on a letter from Col Burback which letter I received at Detroit prior to that of yours and forwarded it to him to Act on, but on my return from Detroit I found no part of it made use of and still remain on hand, but should you thing proper I will commence on the first day of November to have the Frocks & Trowsers made for the next year, the Taylors are few and will take them a length of time to Compleat them— Lieut Brevort made application to me for Three pieces for the use of the Brig which I had delivered him I am of opinion there is still a suffient for Frocks and Trow for two years, the greatest part of it is Duck and excellant for Such articles—Should I not hear from you before Novem I shall commence having the Frock &c made as already stated—

Sir

I am with great respect and
Very obedt & Hum Servt

The Honl Henry Dearborn
Secretary of War

J. Whistler Capt

Capt. J. Whistler to Dearborn

Honnable Henry Dearborn
Secretary of War—

Please to pay Messrs Kinzie and Foresyth the Sum of Nine hundred and Sixty five Dollers and fifty Six Cents, they having furnished Five [thou]sand three hundred and thirteen pounds of Beef, One thousand and Fifty p [ounds] of pork, One hundred and Sixty four pounds Soap, and One hundred gallon Whiskey, for the Gar-

rison at Fort Dearborn as pr Agreement made with them in Consequence of the Contractors Failing to Supply the troops as pr his Stipulations with the Government—Signed Duplicates—

Fort Dearborn 17th day of August
1807 J Whistler Capt
Commg

Hull to Dearborn

Sir Detroit Augt 19 1807.

McKee has sent for the differennt Nations of Indians to meet him at Amherstburgh. About two hundred have attended, and have smoaked the war-pipe and danced the War-dance with him

He has been very liberal in his presents to them and I fear in the event of a War, with England, many will take up the Hatchet against us, unless We immediately have such a force in the Country as will overawe them—

Enclosed is a plan, which I have projected, and am carrying into effect for the defence against the Indians—The two new Block-Houses are built of solid timber, and are now guarded every Night, and in No 3 I have placed three Iron six pounders, It will not only defend the pickets, but commands the River.... It is my intention to place small pieces in the other Block-houses—In case of an attack by a Superior Body of Indians, it is my intention and the arrangements are already made, to place a sufficient Number of Men in these Block Houses, to defend them—A part of the other Troops will be thrown into the Fort, and the others held

in reserve to act as circumstances may require—I shall consider the defense of the Fort as the primary Object, because the Town and all the other parts depend on it—As long as the Fort and the three Block Houses are defended, I think the Town will be protected.

The British have armed and are arming their Vessels. I have recommended Capt Dyson to establish Batteries, on the Bank of the River—Otherwise one Vessel might destroy the whole Town—He agrees in the propriety of it, and the only difficulty, is the expense of plank and other Materials—If the disputes should not be settled, I consider retaining this place of the first importance—If the British or Indians under their patronage, should possess themselves of it—The Indians would have no where to look, but to the British—All our frontiers would be defenceless and greatly distressed—It would require time and a large force to regain the place, and immense expense, to replace the necessary Stores—In addition to this all communication would be cut off from the northern and western Posts, and they would probably fall. . . . — —

I have no information to communicate in addition to that contained in my Letters of the 17th by the Express—The Militia endure the fatigue of Labor and Military duty, with cheerfulness, and the contemptible and base attempts which have been made to poison their Minds, seem now to be viewed with abhorence—The People are sensible they have been deceived, and their Indignation is pointed against the Authors—The party is too contemptible to excite any other emotions than pity— —

The hundreds, whose marks are to the Petition to the

President. know nothing of the Contents of it, and many of them have already come forward and demanded that they should be erased—I will not trouble you further on this incurable Subject, only to observe, that I have perhaps done more than candor itself would require, to preserve harmony, and It has been met only by base artifice and mean deception—I am respectfully your

most obedt Servt

To H Dearborn Esqr WILLIAM HULL
Secretary of war.

CAPT. J. WHISTLER TO DEARBORN

Fort Dearborn 23d Augt 1807

Sir

On the 20th Instant I had the honor of receiving your letter of the 18th June last handed by Joseph Varnum Esqr who arrived here on the date above mentioned in good health—I hope you will be so obliging as to accept of my thanks for the introduction of this gentleman you may rest assured there shall be nothing wanting in my power to serve him—Mr Jouitt has informed me he has wrote you by this opportunity Concerning the likelyhood of the Hostility of the Indians in this quarter. I have mentioned it by letter to Col Burback of this date,

Sir

I am respectfully your
most obt & very Hum Servt
J. WHISTLER Capt
Commg

Honorable Henry Dearborn
Secretary of War

Capt J. Whistler to Henry Dearborn

Honorable Henry Dearborn

Secretary of War

Please to pay Messrs Kinzie & Forsyth the sum of Three Thousand one Dollars and Ten cents they having furnished Twelve Thousand six hundred and ninety pounds of Beef, One Thousand four hundred pounds of Pork, Three Thousand seven hundred and ninty six pounds of Flour, and Two hundred Gallons of Whiskey, For the Garrison at Fort Dearborn as per agreement made with them, in conciquence of the Contracter failing To supply the Troops as per his stupilation with the Government—signed Duplicates—

Fort Dearborn 25 Augt. 1807

J. Whistler Capt
Commg

Hull to Dearborn

Sir, Detroit 27th Augt 1807—

I have the Honor to inclose you the Speech of Kawachewon, the oldest Chief of the Ottawa Nation, who called to see me after his delegation to Malden—Likewise the Speech of that Nation at their General Council—Likewise a copy of the Deposition of Lewis Bond, the Collector at the foot of the Rapids. . . . — — — —

I have at length, induced all the Saguina Indians to come and see me—They are now here and everything

is explained to their satisfaction—At present every appearance with respect to the Indians, is favorable I have taken every possible measure to undeceive them, and impress on them their duty and Interest—My Council has been for them to remain quiet at their Villages—They have had different advise from the other side is beyond all doubt-- — —

It is my intention, to remonstrate in the strongest terms, against their Conduct—They have as good a right to call our Citizens to their Councils as the Indians who live in our Country and are under our protection Large Numbers of Indians from all the Nations are now here, they have come to express their friendship to us and concern if War should take place between us and England, and their wish to remain quiet

I am Respectfully your
Most Obedient Servant
WILLIAM HULL

To the Secretary
of War

ADDRESS OF OTTAWA CHIEFS TO GOVERNOR HULL

[Enclosure in Hull to Dearborn, Aug. 27]

Miami Augt 18. 1807—

To Our Father Governor Hull

We your Children residing on the borders of the Miami River of the Ottawa Nation, are requested to go to Malden, for what purposes we are not informed by a Message from our British Father—

We wish you our Father to let us Know whether we

ought to go or not, as we are informed there is a great likelyhood, that War is about to take place between the British and our Fathers of the United States, and as you told us not to pay any attention to what bad Birds should say to us, or listen to their Counsel

We are resolved to take your advice, and not listen to our British Father, should he wish to persuade us to join with him in War against you and our Brothers of the United States

You Know my Father what horrid things they persuaded our forefathers to commit in the late War— We are therefore resolved to live in peace if possible, under the protection of our Father the President of the United States

We have sent Kewachawan and five others to Malden, to hear and see what is going on there, and also to Know what they want with us, and as soon as they return we will let you Know all—

We therefore send you this to assure you Our Father of our best wishes for your Health and Happiness—for the Dog and the Other Chiefs

Signed Israel Ruland

[Endorsed]
Address from the Ottawa Chiefs—

Indian Speech

[Enclosure in Hull to Dearborn, Aug. 27]

Detroit August 24. 1807—
Speech of Kawachawan, or the Eddy,
the Oldest Chief of the Ottawa Nation

Father

I have now come to visit you, after having been some days at Malden.

Father

Capt McKee sent for the Chiefs & Warriors of the Ottawa Nation, to come to Malden and to bring our Armes—We immediately called a Council at Swan Creek, and sent a talk on the Subject—We supposed We were called to take up the Hatchet against the Americans; We were all of one Mind—We determined We would not listen to such advice—It was unanimously agreed to send a Number of Chiefs to Malden with this answer— —

"That We were in peace with the Americans, that we "were one people with them, that We were under their "protection, and we would ever act worthey of It— "That when we were at War with the Americans, the "British promised to help us—That they built a Fort "on the Miami, and the Americans fought and beat us "near that Fort—That when we retreated, the Gates of "the Fort were shut against our wounded, and We were "left to take care of ourselves—That we now know both "our duty and Interest, which is always to remain in "peace and friendship; with our great and Good Father "the President of the United States and all his people". . . . . .

With this Speech, I went to Malden with the other Chiefs, who were appointed—We informed them what answer our Nation had instructed us to make— — —

We were then informed the Reason they sent to us to bring our Armes, was, that they had expected the Governor of Upper Canada there, and we were to have

salluted him. That they were then advised not to listen to the Prophet, but to attend to hunting, and their Cornfields and to live in peace with the Americans— —

The Chief then gave me the most positive assurances of friendship and fidelity to the United States—And that It would last as long as the Trees grew and the water run—

Lewis Bond's Deposition

[Enclosure in Hull to Dearborn, Aug. 27]

Personally Came before the Subscriber one of the Justices assigned to Keep the peace in and for the District of Detroit, and Territory of Michigan, Lewis Bond Esqr, and being duly sworn, deposeth & sayeth that as he was riding from Sandwich to Petite-Cote on friday the 21st Inst he was invited by a Mr Armitinge late an Officer in the Canadian Volunteers, and Son-in-Law to Capt McKee Indian Agent at Amherstburgh; he Mr Armitinge, did say to this Deponent that the reports respecting Capt McKee's exciting the Indians to commit Hostilities, against the Citizens of the United States was not true: That the Indians were invited to come to Amherstburgh, for the purpose of Receiving their Goods, but they had not arrived, and two or three hundred were detained at that place and drew Rations until the Camden a Kings Vessel, arrived with their Goods—But in Council Capt McKee had told them, the Indians, that he expected War would take place, between Great Britian and the United States, when they would have occasion for their assistance and he hoped they would hold themselves in

readiness for that purpose, and further this Deponent sayeth Not

Signed Lewis Bond

Sworn and Subscribed before me at Detroit the 28th Augt 1807—

Signed George McDougall
Justice of the Peace for the District of Detroit

A true Copy from the Original Deposition

A[b?]ijah Hull

[Endorsed]
Lewis Bonds Deposition

Hull to Dearborn

Detroit 9th Septr 1807

Sir

Two days ago, an express arrived at Amherstburgh, from the Governor of Upper Canada———

Every circumstance since, indicates an expectation of War on the part of the British—The Merchants are removing all their Goods and valuable property to Amherstburgh—The Governor, it is said, has sent his Wife and family to England. Every piece of Cannon is ordered to be mounted, and indeed every possible preperation, appears to be making for War. Colo Grant says he daily expects Troops to relieve the 41st Regt—Others who pretend to Know, are confident, he is not to be relieved, but reinforced.—

The Idea which has gone abroad since the last Dispatches, is, that an immense fleet will invade the Sea-

port Towns, in the northern and middle States, & all the force of the States will be required for their protection—That a fleet will be sent into the Mississippi, which will prevent the Kentuckians from marching to this Country—Thus with the aid of the Indians, the Canadas are to be saved—I have done and am doing all in my power, for the safety of this Country———

The militia now discover an excellent Spirit, and I hope will act like Men, worthey of enjoying the Country in which they live—The temper of the Indians seems very much to have changed for the better—The Saguina Indians have all come in, and have manifested the greatest friendship—They say that the Prophet has deceived them, and done them a very great Injury. That it was in consequence of his advice, they did not come in when first sent for—They appear to be very penitent for their past conduct, and I have reason to believe it is sincere—The Chippewas and Ottawas, between Saguina & Michilmackinac, have likewise visited me, and profess every mark of friendship—The Ottawas & Wyandots have held Councils, and have unanimously determined, never to commit Hostilities on the United States—BlueJacket lately made me a Visit from Greenville—He has been considered the friend and principal adviser of the Prophet—I had a long talk with him, and read to him the Speech of the Herald of the Prophet, which I sent to you—His answer to me was, that he knew all the Speeches the Prophet had sent to the different Nations—That he never sent that Speech or any thing like It—That he was a friend to the United States, and had ever advised all the Nations to be friendly—That his Object was to induce them to abandon the use of Ardent

Spirits, and unite together, and preserve themselves as a Nation—

He presented to me a very honorable Certificate, given to him by General Washington while he was President, declared, since the Treaty of Greenville he had ever been the friend of the U. States, and would remain so as long as he lived—On his way to Greenville, he held a Council with the Wyandots, at Browns Town, and he joined with them in a Speech to the Shawanoes, advising them to peace and friendship with the United States—I have taken every means in my power, to undeceive them, and convince them that their safety, happiness, and even existence depends on their fidelity to the U. States—I believe I have been successful, and shall be greatly disappointed, If in any event, We shall find many of them our Enemies—To effect the Object, I have considered it my duty to employ a number of Confidential People, who understand their Language, to go into their Villages and make such communications, as would tend to remove their prejudices, and ensure their friendship—I have sent considerable quantities of Tobacco, which is indispensibly necessary—This has been attended with some expence, which I presume will be paid without any hesitation

Every exertion has been mad[e] and is still making by the British, to secure their Aid—

I inclose to you a Correspondence, which has taken place between Colonel Grant the Commanding officer at Amherstburgh and myself—I shall make no Comments on it—I was at a loss whether It ought to have been sent to you or the Secretary of State. As however It relates wholly to Indian Affairs, I presume I have properly ad-

dressed it—I opened the correspondence with the Commanding Officer here, as the Indian Agents are under his direction.—We are concerned for the Brig Adams We have accounts from Chicagou, twenty days after she sailed from Michilimackinac, and she had not arrived or been heard of—

I have not Received the money due the present year by the Treaty of Fort Industry——

Joseph A Clark the Armorer is now entirely employed in repairing the public Armes—I have ordered Henderson the Black Smith, who has been on the River St Clair, to Saguina—I shall send some Ploughs, Harrows, Chains &c to that place—The Indians there are very numerous, and appear to be much gratified with the assistance, which I have promised them—I reluctantly incur expence, altho I believe the public Money cannot be better appropriated—I have ordered a few American Uniform Coates to be made for the Chiefs, and have presented them—I hope It will be approved, and that you will authorize me to do it, in such cases as shall be thought useful—If we can avoid difficulties at the present Crisis, We shall have nothing to fear hereafter, from the Indians in this Country—Presents of a trifling value have a great effect I am obliged to buy Iron and steel, for the Black-Smiths and Tobacco for the Indians, at an extravagant price—I wish some of those Articles might be sent on—It would be saving of expense.

I am occasionally obliged to hire a *striker* to assist the Black-smith here—I hope this expense will be approved —I believe myself It is necessary as a considerable part of the work cannot be done by one man— — — — — —

We now constantly keep patrols, and the Militia have

been very patient under the heavy duty they have performed—Their discipline and Martial appearance has had a good effect, both on the Indians and on the Inhabitants on the British Shore

The Legionary Corps, is perhaps equal to any body of Troops of the same Number, in our Country I have likewise been much pleased with the discipline and appearance of the first Regt

The Blockhouses are compleated, and the Stockade would have been finished, had I not been disappointed in obtaining Pickets—I daily expect them as the Raft is on its way — — — —

While I remain here, I shall endeavour faithfully to do my duty—I have only to regret, that you should have supposed my System too expensive—If the Indians are refused Bread when they are hungry, If they cannot have Tobacco when they are longing for it, they will not be satisfied—They are numerous, and their friendship is important to us—I hope it is well secured—Scarcely an outrage has been committed by them on our People, since I have been in the Country—

I have every Reason to believe in the event of a War, it would be in my power to engage many of them in our Service, If I was authorized to do it—Should the Western & Northern Indians take up the Hatchet, against us, their object will be to compel the Nations in this quarter to join them—In that case, I would ask, whether in defence of themselves, it would not be expedient to encourage them—By Treaty We are bound to protect them, and it appears to me, in case of necessity, We ought to avail ourselves of their assistance, in affording that protection—

Hitherto my advice to them has been, not to take any active part in the event of a War—This advice they appear to be pleased with — -- — — — — — —

I have now reason to hope, it will be in my power, to make a Treaty for the purchase of Lands, which has been contemplated—I shall however be cautious on the Subject, and shall not do it under circumstances which can produce any evils—Many of the Chiefs, who have been opposed to it are now urging it—I shall wait until the arrival of the Money, due by the Treaty of Fort Industry, when I shall have occasion to call for them— — — — —

For two years past, a deputation has been sent by the Socs, to Amherstburgh, asking the patronage and aid of the British Government, in making War on us—This information I have both from Major Campbell and Colonel Grant—They have heretofore given them no encouragement, but the contrary as they say—A Deputation from them and other Western Indians, is now daily expected I have no expectation that they will call on me, as they have not heretofore—They will pass through the lower part of this Territory on their way to Amerstburgh—It is my intention to be vigilant and know their numbers, situation & Objects; before they pass the River —As I cannot Receive instructions, before they probably will arrive, I must exercise my discretion what course to take—Circumstances may be such, as that I shall consider it my duty, to arrest them, and prevent them from passing—The Mail leaves this so soon that there is not time to copy the Correspondence alluded to, and I have likewise this moment received an additional Letter from

Colo Grant.—This Correspondence shall be sent by the next Mail—

I am Respectfully Your Most Obdt Servant

Genl Dearborn WILLIAM HULL.

Secretary of War.

WAR DEPARTMENT ORDER

S. T. Dyson
294.
224

Sir, War Department Sep: 10th. 07.

Two letters, one dated on the 6th and the other on the 7th ulto were addressed from this Department to Cap: James House at Detroit, under the erroneous impression at the time, that he commanded at that place—they should, however have been addressed to you. I have the honor therefore in the absence of the Secretary of War, of authorising you to take these letters out of the Post office at Detroit and to govern yourself by them accordingly.

Of the one dated on the 7th I enclose you a copy; the other contained merely an injunction to have a Special eye over the provisions and Military Stores that might be sent to Detroit this fall.

Yours of the 11th ult has been received, and will be laid before the Secretary, immediately on his return to the Seat of Government: which will probably be in the first week of next month. I am, Sir &C

JOHN SMITH C. C.

Hull to Dearborn

Sir, Detroit Sept 15th 1807—

In my last Letter, I informed you, that in my next I should enclose you my correspondence with Colonel Grant

As however it contains aggressions committed by the Officers of the British Government, I have sent it to the Secretary of State

I am Respectfully Your
Most Obedient Servant

To the Secretary
of War

William Hull

Hull to Dearborn

Sir— Detroit 15th Septr 1807

Capt Dunham will have the honor of presenting this letter to you—You will find him a very intelligent man, and able to give very useful information—Altho' a military man, I have appointed him the Chief Judge of the Court for the district of Michilimackinack—

He informs me, for some time past the interpreter there has not been paid—The intercourse with the Indians is such, that it appears to me, an Interpreter is indispensably necessary, and a reasonable compensation ought to be made—

I am respectfully, your most Obedt
Servt

Honble H. Dearborn
Secretary of War

William Hull.

Hull to Dearborn

Sir Detroit Octr 6. 1807

Enclosed is a Memorandum of the Annuities which the Wyandots have elected for the next year—Altho' it has been put into the Heads of some of the Indians, that Money would be more useful to them, yet I am satisfied of the Contrary, and if the Goods should be sent on, in a good order, and of as good a quality, as they have been for two years past, they would be better satisfied than to receive the Money

I am Sir Respectfully

To the Honorable Henry Dearborn Secretary of War. your Most Obedient Servant William Hull

[Enclosure in Hull to Dearborn, Oct. 6]

Articles the Wyandots wish sent for their Annuities the next year

Brass Kettles from 1 Gall to 15.....	200
Powder	100
Bar Lead	20
White Chappel Needles different sizes) Sewing Silks of different colours) Sewing thread of different colours) One half fine white thread)	50
Ribbonds of different colours from) one and a half Inch to 2 Inches)	
Vermilion	10
Good Blankets Calicoes Handks)	

Shawls and Broad Clothes of different prices	))	620
		$1000
Shawanoes —	1000 $	
Ottawas —	1000 $	
Chipaways —	1000 $	

Capt. J. Whistler to Dearborn

Sir Fort Dearborn 9th Octr 1807

I have the honor to incloase you a copy of the invantory of provisions, on hand unexpended 30th Sep agreeable to the contract—I have also the honor to inform you that I compleated shingling the garrison, and sinc I have built two shops for the armer in the Indian department the first was consumed by fi[r]e I am now building a house for the agent and Factor Interpretor on the opisite side of the River I first examined the ground and found it could be protected by boath Block Houses and then Commenced other reason for having it built on that side the river was it is greater resort for Indians in camping than on the side of the river which stands the garrison on—I hoope this building will be the last for the Company wants dicipline, however I exersise them regularly twise a week—

Sir

I have the honor to be
with great respect
Your very Hum Ser
J. Whistler Capt
Comm

Honorabl Henry Dearborn
Secretary of War

[Inventory lost]

Hull to Dearborn

Detroit October 9. 1807.

Sir

For two weeks past We have had no Mail—I am therefore in a very unpleasant situation with respect to information and instructions—There are at present about two thousand Indians at Amherstburg—They were invited there to receive their annual presents—A great part of them have been there three or four Weeks—It is now two weeks since their presents arrived Very few have as yet been delivered—They are daily supplied with rations—probably nine tenths of them, reside in our Country

The British seem to be making every preparation for War, and It is the general opinion, with them, that it will take place—Arms have arrived, to arm their Militia, and it is said that three Regiments have arrived at Quebec others say only One—Governor Gore, who was only Civil Governor, has received a new Commission, as Commander In Chief of all the forces in Upper Canada —I have good information, that a Body of Troops are now on their way to St Josephs by the way of Grand River, from sixty to one hundred—I have likewise information, that a Body of Infantry and a Company of Marines, are ordered to Amherstburg—They are busily employed in fortifying and strengthening that place— Indeed, Sir, there is every indication of War, from appearances on the other side

If this place should be lost, all our Military Stores will not only be lost to us, but our Enemies will be supplied

with them—The Indians will have no where to look but to our Enemies—They will generally become hostile—The Canadians on both sides will attach themselves to the power in possession of the Country—It is now easy to defend this important point, and should it be lost, it will be attended with great expense, and sacrifice to regain it—I hope effectual measures will immediately be adopted—

There is a perfect good understanding between the present Commanding Officer at this Post, and myself, and I shall endeavour to cooperate with him in such manner, as to afford the most effectual security—During the appearance of War with England, the safety of the Frontiers, and the real interest of the Country require a much larger force here, than we at present have—I already have and shall continue to devote my best Talents to organize the little force now in the Country, and sincerely hope the Government [will not] delay, to put this part of the Country in such a situation as to give perfect security to the Frontiers

I am Respectfully your
most Obedient Servant
Wm. Hull

To the Honorable
Henry Dearborn
Secretary of War

Aaron Greeley's Estimate of Building Cost in Detroit

The buildings in the City of Detroit erected by his Excellency William Hull Esquire for the Indian Department, Are — —

A Council house 45 feet in length 25 feet in breadth one story high, built of stone. the walls 12½ feet in heighth, including the foundation, and 18 inches in thickness, which amounts to about 100 Perch of Stone, the expense of laying furnishing the lime other Materials etc. will not exceed $3 per perch.....Say $300,
4500 brick for the Chimney @ $7.50 P 1000..... 56,
lime Materials Mason Work etc. for Chimney.... 60,
timber for floors & Roof 800 feet @ $.08 per ft.... 64,
1000 feet of Scantling @ $10, per 1000..... 10,
14000 Shingles @ $5,50 per 1000..... 77,
5000 feet, of boards @ $10 per 1000..... 50,
framing Roof and floor..... 50,
Shingling and boarding roof..... 25,
Making Sash 320 panes 7 by 9 glass
@ $,08 per light..... 26,
30 lbs putty @ $,25 per lb..... 8,
70 lbs Shingle Nails @ $,37½ per lb..... 26,
80 lbs board Nails @ $,25 per lb..... 20,
2 Outside Doors @ $6 each..... 12,
4 Inside Doors @ $4 each..... 16,
locks & hinges for Doors..... 12,
Cornish, & Window frames..... 40,
Window Casings, Door frames & Casings..... 25,
Boarding Gable ends & making StairWay..... 16,
140 feet of Glass @ $15 per 100 ft..... 22,

$915,

The Stone made use of in building the Council house, were taken from the Citadel in the old Town of Detroit, and belonged to the United States. Likewise his excellency Wm Hull took from the same place 100 perch of

Stone for his own private use, which were the property of the United States.

A Carpenters shop 18 feet in length 14 feet in breadth one story in heigth 3000 Shingles 2000 feet of board 600 bricks about $8, worth of stone work for the boundation, and 40 panes of 7 by 9 glass—The building as it now stands would not be estimated at more than.....120,

A Black smiths shop and old block building 18 feet square 1½ story high which was a look out house and given by Coln. E. Brush to Mr Hull as a present; the expence of moving it from the Commons to the Town would be but, trifling, there are about 1200 bricks in the forge and a small Chimney 400 feet of boards, a small room in the upper story plaistered and 64 panes of 7, by 9 glass. The building as it now stands would not be estimated at more than.....200

Total Amount $1235

The Council house has none of the Inside work done, Except one single rough floor being laid, the Doors and stair way mentioned before, and a small trifle of rough partition, the outside is intended to be finished, (except the painting,) all the glass that ever was intended is put into the house, and is in the foregoing Statement, and it is all that is necessary.

The Carpenters and Blacksmiths shops, are small light buildings all the work is done to them that is necessary, to make them Convenient for the business for which they are intended

In making out the foregoing Statement, reference has been had to the price of labour in this place, and to the price of Materials delivered on the spot, and Care has

been taken not to fall short of the price or quantity in any one article,—And it is to be presumed, that if a fair and impartial Statement of these buildings were to be made, by experienced Workmen the Costs would not, be made to exceed the within Statement.
Detroit, 13th. Octbr 1807

Aaron Greeley

[Endorsed]
Detroit Oct. 13, 1807.
Aaron Greeley—Estimate of the expenses in erecting public buildings at that place.

Rec'd Nov. 25, 1807

War Department Order

Samuel T. Dyson
245
79.

Sir, War Department Octr 16th 07.
Your letter of the 11th of August was duly received in my absence. The delivery of the military stores mentioned, in the order of the Governor is approved. Whenever hereafter any military stores are required for the use of the militia, you will advise with the Governor on the expediency of delivering them; it will however be expected that no communication will be delivered but for useful and beneficial purposes. Three companies of the militia of Michigan territory will be called into the service of the United States, under the immediate command of a Major; and whenever any

military operations become necessary, you will consider the Governor of the Territory as having the command, both of the regular troops and militia until you receive further instructions. In the meantime however your own and the Majors commands are not to interfere.

I am, Sir &C.

Hull to Dearborn

Detroit 4th Novr 1807.

Sir,

I have the pleasure to inform you that I have nearly concluded a Treaty, with the Chippewa, Ottawa, Wyandot, and Pottawatamie Nations, in which will be granted to the United States, the Lands within the following boundaries Viz. Beginning at the Mouth of the Miami of the Lakes, and running thence up the middle thereof to the Mouth of the Great Au Glaise River, thence running due north until it intersects a parallel of latitude to be drawn from the outlet of Lake Huron, which forms the River St Clair, thence running north-east on the course that may be found will lead in a direct line to White Rock in Lake Huron, thence due east, until it intersects the boundary line between the United States and Upper Canada in Said Lake, thence southerly following the said boundary line down said Lake, through River St Clair Lake St Clair and the River Detroit into Lake Erie, to a point due east of the aforesaid Miami River, thence west to the place of beginning—By the

most accurate estimate that can be made at present, the United States will gain a little rising of five Millions of Acres, exclusive of the Reservations to the Indians and former cessions — — — —

The United States are to pay ten thousand dollars as soon as practicable after the ratification of the Treaty, and an Annuity forever of two thousand four hundred dollars—And are to furnish two Blacksmiths, one at Saguina and one on the Miami for ten years.—The Chiefs from Saguina, who last summer refused to atttend, were present and very cheerfully signed it—No one has refused who was present—I should have sent it by this Mail, but there are two or three of the Pottawatamie Chiefs, who have not arrived. I daily expect them, and as they were desirous the last Summer of making the Treaty, there can hardly be a doubt, but they will become parties to it—

In the execution of this business I have had great difficulties to encounter—The influence of the Prophet, of our neighbours on the other shore, of the purchasers of large Tracts, within the boundaries described in the Treaty, of the French people and others, who have made Settlements on these Lands, and of a Vile and despicable party in this Town, has been exerted to impede the views, and injure the Interest of the United States—I am happy to believe that all this influence and interest will not be sufficient to prevent a measure which in my opinion will greatly promote the Interest of the United States, and the comfort and happines of the Indians—

Amidst all the conflict of party rage I shall steadily pursue my duty, and do all in my power to promote the

safety and Interest of my Country—If such conduct will not support me, I do not wish for support

I am Respectfully your Most
Obedient Servant

To the Honorable
Henry Dearborn Esqr
Secretary at War

WILLIAM HULL

HULL TO DEARBORN

Private. Detroit 5th Novr 1807.

Dear Sir—

I have received your private letter of the 16th Octobr —I sincerely thank you for it—The mail is closing, and I must delay a particular answer—

I am sincerely your Friend

Honble H. Dearborn
Secretary of War.

WM HULL.

HULL TO [DEARBORN?]

Sir, Detroit 8th November 1807.

The mail has this day arrived. It is more than three weeks, since we have had one before. The Postmaster has not informed me of the cause of this derangement. I have received by this mail your letter of the 17th of September.

Very large numbers of Indians have been kept at Malden for about two months past. It is more than a month since their annuities were delivered them. Many

of them left Malden after they received their annuities. About ten days ago they sent Strings of *Wampum* to every part of the Indian country for them to come in. They have now deputations from the Sacs and some other Western nations. It appears to be their intention, to retain as many of the Indians as possible, until the question of *Peace* or *War* is determined—

The Militia of this Territory, shall be kept in the best possible state of preparation.

The Military stores have arrived, & a considerable quantity of provisions. I have likewise just received, the money in Dollars, for the Treaty of Fort Industry, a considerable part of it has already been paid. The Indians are much gratified in receiving it in Dollars. If I am not greatly deceived, it will not be in the power of the British, to induce the Ottawas, Chippewas or Wyandots to take up the Hatchet against us. at least not many of them. No acts of hostility have as yet been committed. I will communicate with the Governors, of Ohio and Indiana.

In my letter of the 4th *instant* I informed you of the progress I had made in concluding a treaty. The Pottawatima Chiefs have not all, as yet arrived I daily expect them, not one chief has as yet objected to sign. In its present state I think it sufficiently compleat, still I wish for more of the Pottawatimas to sign.

I regret that I did not find enclosed, the President's directions to Governor Harrison and myself, in case of a war; to which you allude.

With the Indians I have been indefatigable, I have given them the best advice, of which I was capable. I think it

has had its effect. We have now about five hundred here, and they will remain until the Treaty is concluded. In the probable event of a war I think it indispensibly necessary, that a force should be on the Spot here ready to act; Should the government wait until it actually takes place, very serious consequences might result, before such force could arrive

I am respectfully your
Most obedient servant
Wm Hull.

P. S. The fortifications, agreeably to the plan I communicated to you, are nearly compleated They would have been finished, before this, had I not been disappointed in obtaining Piquets.

[Endorsed]

Detroit Nov 8, 1807. Wm Hull Relative to an assemblage of Indians at Malden their general disposition &c
Has been answered
Recd. Decr 7, 1807

Hull to Dearborn

Sir. Detroit November 8th 1807

since closing my letter of this day; on further information, and consulting with Captain Dyson, the Commandant of the Garrison, I have concluded that it is my duty to send an Express immediately to the Governor of Ohio, requesting him to send on immediately to this place five hundred men properly officered, and armed and equipped as the Law directs—

I have information from sources which cannot be doubted, that the Commanding officer and the Agent of Indian Affairs at Amherstburg, have instructions to retain at that place, as many Indian Warriors, as they can induce to engage. The Military force which they now have there with the aid of the Militia, and those Indians will be much superior, to any force I can possibly collect in this part of the country. Five hundred men, in addition to the force we now have, will in my opinion render this place safe.

In taking this measure I feel much responsibility and probably may be censured, if our differences with England should be settled, and no hostilities should be committed by the Indians, which probably depends upon that contingency; But Sir in examining the papers which I this day received, and on a full view of the subject, as far as the information that I have been able to collect, extends; I see nothing to satisfy me that a Settlement of our differences with England will take place.

The strong preparations which are making on the other side, all the mechanics in the country being employed, in repairing and strengthning the Fort at Amherstburg; the numerous body of Indians there at the present moment, and the uncommon exertions which are making to retain them have induced me to adopt the measure.

I have however written to the Governor, that if intelligence should arrive, that a treaty is concluded and all differences between the two countries are settled, he will delay the march of the Troops, until he receives instructions from the department of War.

This letter will probably reach you in sixteen or sev-

enteen days; If from information at the seat of Government, the measure should not be thought necessary, an Express may be sent so as to reach the Governor of Ohio, before the march of the troops.

The great importance of retaining this place, it being a Deposit of valuable public stores, the serious and distressing consequences which would attend the loss of it, to our frontier settlements the expense and sacrifice which would be necessarily incurred in regaining it; the affect it would have on the savages and indeed the Canadians, are considerations which I presume will induce the Government to approve my conduct, whether the measure shall be eventually found necessary or not—

I have the Honor to be
Respectfully
Your Most obdt Servant
WILLIAM HULL

Henry Dearborn esqr
Secretary of War

[Endorsed]

Detroit Nov. 8, 1807. Wm Hull—relation to calling out 500 of the Militia of the State of Ohio—
Recd Decr 7, 1807

HULL TO DEARBORN

Detroit 13th Novr 1807

Sir

I Received your Letter of the 27th of Sept last evening, containing the Presidents Instructions with respect

to the Indians—I shall continue to take every measure in my power, to impress on their Minds the Ideas contained in those instructions—The British are very active, in fortifying at Amherstburg, and they continue to invite, and retain there, all the Indians they can engage.

I am Respectfully your
Most Obedient Servant
WILLIAM HULL.

Hon Henry Dearborn
Secretary of War
Washington

HULL TO DEARBORN

Detroit Novr 18th 1807

Hon H Dearborn Esqr
Secretary of War

Sir

I have the honor to enclose a Treaty, which I have concluded with the Ottawa, Chippewa, Pottawatamie, and Wyandot Nations, in conformity to a Commission I received from the President of the United States

By the most accurate estimate, which can at present be made, the lands ceded by this Treaty will amount to five Millions of Acres, exclusive of the reservation and prior cessions—The lands are generally of a good quality, and well situated for improvement—The Treaty has been conducted on such principles, and the whole subject has been so fully explained, that I presume, no difficulties will hereafter arise—The Indians have not in any degree been pressed into the measure. but it has been the result of their own deliberate act—I did not send for the Chiefs

of the Wyandots at Sanduskey—They live out of the tract and that Nation do not claim any interest in the Lands ceded—Being an old and respectable Nation, the other Nations have generously agreed that they shall receive a part of the consideration, and the Chiefs in this neighbourhood have signed the Treaty—

I am Respectfully your
Most Obedient Servant
William Hull

Hull to Dearborn

Henry Dearborn Detroit November 18: 1807
Secretary of War

Sir

If the Treaty of Detroit should be ratified, Aulieauneay, the principal Chief of the Ottawa Nation, requests that his Great Father the President, will present him with a Silver Gorget, with such devices on it as he shall think proper, and with this inscription "The Ottawa Nation is entitled to eight hundred dollars a year for ever by the Treaty of Detroit"—I think it will be good policy to comply with this request—He is a sensible Man, was the leading Chief during the negotiation of the Treaty, and I have every reason to believe is attached to the interest of the United States ————————

The Chiefs of the several Nations have desired that the boundary lines may be run, and the Reservations located according to the Treaty, as soon as practicable after the ratification of the same, and that an exact Copy may be sent to each Nation, written on parchment. ———

The Ottawas request that their Annuity under the Treaty of Greenville may be sent in Goods as usual. That their proportion of the ten thousand dollars by the Treaty of Detroit may be paid in the following manner—1000 dollars in Rifles—300 dollars in Brass Kettles, and 300 dollars in Calicoes The residue with the 800 dollars annuity which will become due the first of September next, may be paid in Silver Dollars—They have further signified to me their desire that the four instalments which yet remain unpaid by the treaty of Fort Industry, may be changed into an Annuity forever—I have given them no encouragement that it can be done—Indeed I should be of the opinion that it would not be adviseable, as the principal part of the Detroit Treaty is an Annuity —It is my duty to mention it as their desire ——— ———

The Chippewas, wish for Goods as usual for the Greenville Treaty—For their proportion of the $10,000 under the Treaty of Detroit, if it should be ratified they wish for $400 in Rifles, $400 in Brass Kettles $400 in fine blue Cloth for the Chiefs, $2000 in Silver dollars, and the residue in such goods as are usually sent—They complain the strouds are too narrow, not wide enough for leggans

— — — — — —

The Pottawatamies, the same as the Chippewas, in proportion to the sum they are to receive under the Treaty of Detroit.

I have heretofore sent an account of the Articles which the Wyandots have elected

I am Respectfully Your most
Obedient Servant—
William Hull.

Hull to Dearborn

Henry Dearborn Esqr Detroit 25 Novr 1807—
Secretary of War

Sir

The Ottawas were entirely opposed to selling the Lands on the other side of the Miami—In conformity to your instructions I did not press the subject. I however propsed to them to cede two miles in breadth from the foot of the Rapids to the Connecticut Reserve, in such a direction as the President should elect for the purpose of a Road, and convenient Houses for travellers.

The answer of the Chiefs was, that they should have no objections to it themselves, but it was necessary that they should consult their Nation before they agreed to it—That they held a Council before they left the Miami, and the Nation had agreed to sell the tract on this side, provided the other Nations agreed to it, but none on the other—That they believed it would be a convenience to them, and it should have their Interest—I believe it can be effected if proper measures are persued, and it is desired by the Government—And perhaps the whole tract contemplated in your Instructions—

It is thought that a north line from the mouth of the *Auglaise,* will include the sources of all the Rivers which emty themselves into Lake Erie St Clair, Huron &c and a great part of the Saguina River will be included in the purchase—The Chippewas were not willing to include the Lands near the mouth of the River, their principal settlements being there

I am Respectfullly your Most Obedient Servant

William Hull

Hull to Dearborn

Sir Detroit 26 Novr 1807—

I have the Honor herewith to transmit you my general Account as Superintendant of Indian Affairs, on which you will perceive there remains a balance due me of Nine hundred Ninty two dollars & Ninety three Cents, as I have stated it—It is possible I have not given credit for all the Bills I have drawn on you. If I have not your account will correct mine in that respect—The Vouchers to number 43 inclusive, were sent with my former Account, and are in the possession of the Accountant of the War Department—It will be easy for him to number them according to the present Account—The tobacco was delivered principally during the negotiating of the Treaty—You may think the quantity large—But, Sir, it was more desired by them than any thing I could give them, and in my opinion was indispensably necessary—I gave them little Spirit, and it being warm weather something was necessary—I therefore gave them Cyder and water sweetened with Sugar—

The Cappeaus were given them in consequence of their attending the Treaty—Some presents to the Chiefs were necessary—I thought those garmens the most suitable—Mr Ruland was employed with the Ottawas at the foot of the rapids at the commencement of the Treaty, and came on here with them—He is the only Special Interpreter I have paid—For my own compensation and the other expenses of the Treaty, I shall draw on you for a sum sufficient, to discharge the Bills, after which I will forward my Account— — —

I likewise send you my Account of the Annuities—All the Goods have been delivered, and all the money paid which I have received, excepting one thousand dollars, the second Instalment under the treaty of fort Industry to the Wyandots It was so late before I received it, that the principle part of them had gone on their hunting grounds, and they have desired me to retain it until they return—Those present do not incline to receive it until the others return There is a Box in my possession for them of one thousand dollars, which has not nor will be opened until they are ready to receive it

I am Respectfull Your Most
Obedient Servant
WILLIAM HULL

THOMAS KIRKER TO WILLIAM HULL

(Copy) Chilicothe, Novr 27 1807—

Sir

I have the honor to acknowledge the Receipt of your Letter of the 8th Inst and in answer observe that I have received two Letters, both dated on the 17th of Septr from the Secretary of War, stating that the President of the U. S. had directed him to request me to organize a Regiment of the Militia of this State to march at the shortest notice—From the tenor of his Letter I supposed he wished the Regiment embodied, and wrote to know if that was his intention, I was answered it was not. In one of the Letters refered to above is the following paragraph. "In the event of actual hostilities on the "part of the Indians *and* of a call on you for aid by

"Governor Hull you will please order the necessary num-
"ber of men to march with the greatest possible celerity
"to Detroit or such other point as the enemy may render
"most expedient."—You will perceive Sir from this extract that I should exceed the authority vested in me if I was to comply with your request for the Secretary deems it proper that hostilities shall have commenced and your call for aid before the Men are marched—Under these circumstances I shall consider it my duty to send a Copy of your Letter to the Secretary and take his directions on the Subject. In the meantime I shall have the Men ready to march if he requires it. I shall give you the erliest information should the Regiment be ordered to Detroit. I have detained your Express a few days until the Mail from the City of Washington arrived. I get nothing by it which is satisfactory as it respects our affairs with England altho' there is a Newspaper account via Boston which states our affairs with that Nation to be amicably settled

I have the honor to be very
Respectfully
Sir,
your Obe Servt
Govr Hull Signed Thos Kirker

Hull to Dearborn

Honorable H. Dearborn Detroit 5 Decemer 1807—
Secretary of War 5 O'clock P. M.—

Sir

The mail has this moment arrived with your Letters of the 16th & 17th of October I will immediately take

measures to give publicity and effect to the Presidents Proclamation respecting deserters

The President's Instructions have been communicated and fully explained to the Chiefs and Warriors of the different Nations—They have had a wonderful effect notwithstanding all the persuasions, and allurements of the British to retain the Indians at Malden, with a view to take up the Hatchet against us in the event of a War, —I have now the pleasure to inform you that they have been in a great measure unsuccessful, that the greater part of the Indians have left them, and have refused to comply with their request—The principal part of the Chiefs have called on me, and have pledged themselves in the most solemn manner to follow the advice of their great father the President of the United States, and remain quiet Spectators—

My express sent to the Governor of the State of Ohio has not returned, and I have received no information— It is now twenty five days since he left this place—I cannot account for the delay—At that time there was a very numerous body of Indians at Malden, where they had remained about two months, and every hostile preperation appeared to be making——

Under your Instructions I thought it my duty to take the measure, I have communicated to you The state of things having changed as it respects the Indians, altho' I have no information whether peace or war will take place, between England and the United States, yet I now think it my duty to countermand the order I shall therefore immediately send an Express for the purpose — — — — —

With respect to the three Companies, of Militia from

this Territory, there does not appear to be a discretion left with me—I shall immediately order them into actual Service, and shall give the Command to Major Whipple, formerly a Captain in the Army of the U. States now the Major of the Legionary Corps

I have the Honor to be very
Respectfully your most Obedt [Servant]
WILLIAM HULL

HULL TO DEARBORN

The Hone H. Dearborn Detroit 11th December 1807
Secretary of War
Sir

On the 5th Inst I sent an express to the Governor of the State of Ohio with a Letter of which No 1 is a Copy. Last evening my first express returned with a Letter from the Governor, of which No 2 is a copy

I have detached the three Companies agreeably to the Presidents orders—The whole of Capt Scotts Company of Rifle-men, and Capt Hickmans of Lt Infantry, voluntarily engaged, and about thirty from the 1t Regt—The remainder were detached from the Regiment without any difficulty

It will not be necessary to build Hutts for their accommodation—The Indian Council House the two new Blockhouses, and the old Blockhouse, will be nearly sufficient for their accommodation—I have ordered Chimneys to be built in the Blockhouses, and to have them in every respect placed in a situation for the accommodation of Troops—I have directed George Mc-

Dougall the Quarter Master General to provide wood, Stationary, Kettles, &c, necessary for the Troops, and I shall draw Bills for the payment—I applied to the Military Agent here to furnish these Articles, his answer was that he was not authorized———

My express brought a Newspaper from Chilicothe as late as the 26th of November which contains English news, as late as the 4th of October, brought by Ship Sanson, Capt Stephens....By this information, I am induced to believe our differences with England will not be settled, and that war will be the consequence—I regret that I have countermanded the order for the march of the Troops, as it may prevent them from proceeding, if they should be directed by the President ———

With the means I have, every thing possible will be done for the defence of this place, and in the event of war, or a strong probability of it, the Government cannot be too prompt in effectual measures, to reinforce this post ———————————— —— ——

All the Militia opposite to us are now assembled and it is said the whole of theme are to be called into actual service and put under pay——

With respect to the Indians, I have assurances, from the principal part of the Chiefs, of friendship, and that they will remain at peace—At the present moment there are not a large body at Malden, from the best information I can obtain—I however have information that a considerable body of Shawanoes &c lately passed the foot of the rapids on their way to Malden—It is likewise certain that some, and probably that a considerable number, are hunting not a great distance from Malden and can be called in when necessary—Altho' I believe

they will not have that aid from them which they expected, yet I have no doubt, but they will be able to induce a considerable number to join them in the event of a war.

The British Agents have used every means in their power for the purpose—

I am Respectfully, your
Most Obedient Servant
WILLIAM HULL

[Endorsed]

Detroit Decr. 11. 1807
Wm Hull—Enclosing a Copy of
his letter to the Govr of Ohio
& the Answer Has detached 3
Companies of Militia
[?] to be acknowledged with
the following remarks
no direction having been given to
the Executive of the State of Ohio,
in relation to your request for 500
Militia, your subsequent communication,
requesting that the Militia should not
proceed to Detroit will superceed the
necessity of any directions from this
Department, in relation to that Subject.—
you will undoubtedly make use of every
means in your power for ascertaining from
time to time the actual state of things in
your neighbourhood, and communicate whatever may
be interesting by Mail, and you may depend on receiving
the earliest information in relation to events that may
occur which will effect our frontiers

William Hull to the Governor of Ohio

[Enclosure in Hull to Dearborn, Dec. 11]

Detroit 5th December 1807—

His Excellency the Governor
of the State of Ohio

Sir

The Express which I sent to you on the 8th day of October, requesting a body of Militia, for the defence of this place has not returned, and I have received no information on the subject. The numerous body of Indians which were then assembled at Malden, by the influence and under the patronage of British Officers, have now principally returned to their Villages and hunting grounds—This was not by the consent, and advice of the British Agents, (as they made use of every persuasion to detain them,) but by the good sense of the Indians themselves. From the information I have at present, I have reason to believe, they will generally take the advice of the President of the U. S. which I have endeavoured to impress on their minds, in the most forcible manner, and remain quiet Spectators of the differences of the white people, if we should have any—By the last Mail, I received directions from the President of the U. States to call three Companies of the Militia of this Territory into actual Service. Under the present state of things it is my opinion this force will be sufficient, for the defence of this place. Unless you should have reecived particular instructions from the department of War, you will please to countermand the march of the

Troops, if they should be on their way, or should have received your orders for the purpose — — —

I have given the Express a letter to the Commanding Officer of the Troops, to this effect, if he should meet them on their way.

I am Respectfully your
Most Obedient Servant
WILLIAM HULL

HULL TO DEARBORN

Detroit December 17th 1807

Sir,

For two weeks past we have had no Mail. Since my Letter of the 11th Inst I have had no information—My last Express to the Governor of Ohio has not returned—Three days ago they had an express from York, to Malden—The principal Militia Officers, opposite to us, were called to a Council at Malden, where they have remained since—The last accounts of Rations delivered there to the Indians, was nine hundred a day—I do not believe they now have that number there, including Women & Children—The three Companies here are compleatly organized, and it is my intention to have them in the best possible order—They are well Officered and Armed—In the event of a war, it will be in our power, this winter to effect any objects, which the Government may wish, provided a sufficient force is early furnished —In my mind it is of great consequence.—The command of the Lakes, the command of the Indians, and the pos-

session of a considerable part of the Country opposite are objects which might easily be effected

I am Respectfully your most
Obedient Servant—

The Hon
Henry Dearborn
Secretary of War

WILLIAM HULL

AN ESTIMATE OF THE EXPENSES INCURD BY THE TREATY OF DETROIT

Persons employed during the Treaty and as Interpreters, & Confidential Agents

Thomas Knaggs, Brother to Whitmore Knaggs	82.56
Samuel Sanders - - - - - -	100.00
Nicholas Goüin - - - - - -	80.00
Israel Ruland - - - - - -	79.—
Jacob Visgar - - - - - - -	116.16
Henry Conner - - - - - - -	40.—
John Conner - - - - - - -	40.—
James Riley - - - - - - -	60.—
Brown - - - - - - -	60.—
Jacob Smith - - - - - - -	50.—
Elijah Brush for wood for the Indians - -	27.—
Antoine Beaubien, for ground for the Indians to encamp on & destruction of pickets -	22.75
James May for parchment - - - -	8.00
Surveyor for drawin Maps &c - - - -	30.00
Doctor Brown for Medicine & for the Indians -	17.00
	812.47

Calculated up to the 1st of Jany next		
Whitmore Knaggs	- - - - -	122.—
William Walker	Interpreters - - -	75.—
George Johnson	- - - - -	120.—
David Henderson	Blacksmiths - - -	90.—
Expenses of Boatmen in transporting Henderson Tools Iron & Steel &c to Saguina	-	60.—
Iron, Steel &c up to the first of Jany next	-	150.—
farmer for the Indian Dept.	- - - -	155.—
4 Blue Coats for Chiefs	- - - - -	60.—
Express to the Ohio	- - - - -	50
Express to the Ohio to countermand the order		30
		$1724.48
Amount Brought over	- - - - -	$1724.48
Horse Saddle & Bridle which I have thought necessary to give to Little Ceder living near Saguina, Chippewa Chief	- - -	85.00
		$1809.48

The above is an estimate of Money, which will be necessary for the Indian Department, up to the first of Jany next—In addition to it will be my compensation and necessary contingent expenses as Commissioner, during the time I was making the Treaty—In the settlement of my Account I have rendered, there will likewise be a balance due to me—The whole will probably amount to more than four thousand dollars—

I have already drawn on you for about two thousand dollars of this sum, and shall continue to draw, as op-

portunities may occur, and shall immediately after the first of Jany forward all my Accounts up to that time

I am Sir Respectfully your
most Obedient Servant

Detroit 17th Decemb 1807— William Hull

Hull to Dearborn

Detroit 17th Decembr 1807.
9 O'clock in the Evening.

Honble Henry Dearborn
Secretary of War–

Sir—·

I am this moment informed by an Indian, that Governor Gore arrived this Evening at Sandwich, opposite to this place—

It is not difficult to determine his object in this visit — — —Every effort will be made use of to engage the Indians in the event of war, by the British—

I am respectfully your most
Obedt Servt—
Wm Hull.

Hull to Dearborn

The Hon Henry Dearborn
Secretary of War.

Sir, Detroit 23 December 1807—

I have received your Letters of the 25th November and of the 5th Inst—

To that of the 25th Novr I will reply hereafter and I presume in a satisfactory manner—

Before this reaches you, you will have received the Treaty, which I have concluded with the Indians—As yet I have heard of no complaint from a single Individual of the Indians respecting it—I believe a Treaty was never made on fairer principles—Everything relating to it has been fully explained; they were not even urged to the measure; full time was given for them to deliberate; and this, Sir, you may be assured of, it was the result of their own choice — — — — — — — — — — —

By my former Letters, you will perceive I sent an Express to countermand the march of the Troops from the State of Ohio, before my first express returned with the Governors Letter

I did it because many of the Indians had left Malden, and because I received instructions to raise three Companies—Those Companies are now very fast improving in discipline and will be a very efficient Corps.—This day I have reviewed them, with the Troop of Cavalry & Company of Artillery—They really, Sir, make a military appearance and exhibit an excellent Spirit—Their quarters are the three Blockhouses, and I have delivered up the Council House for the use of the Military, and make my own house a Council House for the Indians for the present—

The information that Governor Gore had arrived opposite this place is not true.

There are now at Malden, from the best information Six or Seven hundred Indians—I have great confidence, that the British Officers and Agents, will be disappointed in the aid they expected. Some will join their Standard

in the event of a war, but more would join ours if we would accept them—The Presidents policy in my opinion, is the true policy, to advise them to remain quiet Spectators

From the best data, which can be procured, there is at least Six Millions of Acres, and probably more, in the tract ceded by the Treaty of Detroit, after deducting the Reservations, and all former cessions.—The white Rock, a well known Monument is much farther north, than is laid down in Bradleys Map—The Indians knew perfectly where it was, so that they could not be deceived—The cession will include the Saguina River, tho' not the mouth of it.

I have the honor be
Sir,
Your most Obedient
Servant—
William Hull

Hull to Dearborn

Detroit December 23: 1807—

The Hon Henry Dearborn
Secretary of War.

Sir

By the early frost this season the Indians have lost the principal part of their Corn—They must depend almost entirely on their hunting for support—They are continually applying to me for powder and lead—I do not feel myself authorized to furnish them from the military Stores—I have purchased in very small quan-

tities, and furnished those most needy, and whom I know to be perfectly friendly—I hope this will be approved, and that some measures may be adopted, by which a supply may be furnished, on more moderate terms than it can be purchased here———

Tobacco is absolutely necessary, and it is here very dear

I am Respectfully your
Most Obedient Servant
William Hull.

William Hull and Charles Jouett to Henry Dearborn

Detroit 24 December 1807—

The Hon Henry Dearborn
Secretary of War.

It is agreed by Charles Jouett Agent of Indian Affairs at Chicago, and William Hull Superintendent of Indian Affairs at Detroit, that the following distribution, the ensuing year, shall be made of the Annuities, due in the several Treaties, to the Pottawatamie Nation of Indians.

Greenville Annuity $1000 to be sent to Chicago.

Groseland $1000 which will be due for the present and next year, to be sent to Fort Wayne—

Fort Industry $400 to be sent to Detroit—This sum has been paid to them and it seems to be satisfactory to them, the Chippiwas and Ottawas—The Treaty is not specific as to the Sum.

If the Detroit Treaty should be ratified by the President & Senate, it is further agreed that the one half of the first payment of $1666.66 shall be paid at Chicago,

and the other half at Detroit; and that the whole of the Annuity of $400 shall be paid at Detroit.—

Altho' it is stipulated in the Treaty, that the Pottawatamie proportion of the $10,000 is to be paid at Detroit, yet it is thought it will be more convenient to the Nation, that a part of it should be paid nearer where they reside, and consequently there can be no objections on their part—

We are Respectfully your
Most Obedient Servants
William Hull
Charles Jouett

Hull to Dearborn

Detroit 24th December 1807—

The Hon
Henry Dearborn
Secretary of War

Inclosed is a communication from Jacob Visgar Esqr whom I appointed the farmer for the Indians the last Summer—He is a worthey Man speaks their language, and a good farmer—

I shall only employ him during the months he can be useful.

I am Respectfully your
Most Obnt Servt—
William Hull

Jacob Visgar to William Hull

[Enclosure in Hull to Dearborn, Dec. 24]

Browns Town 12 October 1807—

Governor William Hull

Sir

The important trust your Excellency has been pleased to confide to my charge of Instructing the Wyandots residing at the Villages of Maguawgo and this place in the best method of cultivating their Lands themselves, I have spared no pains nor personal labour to accomplish, hitherto they had hired the Canadian farmers with their Teams to plough their corn fields at an extravagant rate—I am much gratified to find that some of the most influential of these people are now sensible impressed with the importance of this institution, and feel grateful towards our Government, for the assistence and experience they have gained this year Thirty families, altho' they arrived very late from their hunting grounds, have profited by the beneficient Institution of our Government and have planted full one hundred & sixty Acres of Corn, and two of them have sown about eight Acres of Wheat—

The information that the United States would furnish them with farming utensils &c did not unfortunately arrive in the Indian Country in time to allow more than one half of them to profit thereby—I am told that several families are preparing to come in next spring and a fresh supply of ploughs &c ought to be got in readiness for them before that time. I am confident that the

ensuing season a great deal will be done in the line of agriculturing as they are naturally inclined to industry and enterprising people, amicably inclined towards our Government

I have the honor to remain
Your very humble Servant
Signed JACOB VISGAR

HULL TO DEARBORN

Detroit December 28: 1807—

H Dearborn Esqr
Secretary of War

Sir

As many as seven or eight years ago, a Chippewa Indian, by the name Kish-cou-cough, killed a frenchman by the name of Lozo, at Saguina—The Indian was soon after, apprehended and confined in Jail, from whence he made his escape. Nothing since has been done on the Subject—His Father the little Ceder, is an influential Chief—Until very lately, he and all his tribe have been unfriendly to the U. States. This Little Ceder was very influential in preventing the Saguina Chiefs, in coming in when I sent for them last Summer. They finally came in, and soon after the Little Ceder came himself. At first he appeared very unfriendly. After much conversation with him, he agreed to throw all his resentments into the River (as he expressed it) and forever hereafter to be my friend, and the friend of the U. States. He has been faithful to his engagement. He now applies to me for the pardon of his Son. I have promised him

to use my influence with the President. I believe it would be attended with useful consequence. Kish-cou-cough is himself an influential Man

I am Respectfully your
Most Obedient Servt
Wm Hull.

Hull to Dearborn

Detroit 29th December 1807

H. Dearborn Esqr
Secretary of War

Sir

In the detachment under the immediate command of Major Whipple, I have thought it necessary, agreeably, to the Territorial establishment, to appoint an Adjutant, and Quartermaster, each with the rank of Lieut, likewise a Surgeon. The paymaster, by his instructions, does not consider himself authorized to pay them. Conceiving that these appointments were necessary and proper, I wish such instructions may be sent to him, as will authorize him to pay them —— —— ——

Believing that with the same numbers, our military strength would be much increased by ordering from the three Companies a sufficient number of Men, to manage the two Brass field pieces, and the six pounders, which are placed in the Block-houses, I have ordered it to be done, and Capt James Dodemead, the present Captain of the Artillery Company, has agreed to take the command of them, and pay the same attention to their exercise and discipline, as if he was in actual Service,

until the pleasure of the President can be known on the Subject—Until that time these men will be mustered in the Companies to which they belong, and Capt Dodemead's services must be considered as voluntary—I however take the liberty of recommending that he shall be mustered as a Captain in actual Service, and that the Artillery Company, be established as a part of the detachment———— ——— ——

The Troop of Cavalry which is in very excellent order, is desirous of being called into actual Service

I am Respectfully your
Most Obedt Servant
William Hull

Hull to Dearborn

H. Dearborn Esqr Detroit 29th December 1807—
Secretary of War
Sir

Judge Woodward in his Letter to the Secretary of State, condemns the fortifications of the Town of Detroit, as a *useless, expensive,* and *prejudicial* measure.

He was the only Judge present when they were begun, I conversed freely with him on the Subject, stated to him the plan, and he offer'd no objections—It was with great reluctance I undertook the work; not because I did not consider it necessary, but on account of the great labour and expense which I knew would attend it—I waited until the Citizens themselves clamored to be set to work, and complained that I was leaving them to be massacre'd.

If the Judge had any objections to the measure itself, or to the manner in which I proposed to execute it, undoubtedly he ought then to have stated them. It was my own opinion, to have built the Stockade on a much Smaller scale, connected it with the Fort, and left out a part of the Town. Those Inhabitants, that would have been left out complained, promised all the aid in their power, and I found it was the general wish to include the whole of the Town—The fortifications however are on too small a scale, for the expanded Ideas of the learned Judge. Had an attempt been made to have built a solid wall around the Territory, or indeed from the Earth to the Sun it would have met his cordial approbation. It would have astonished wherever it was told, and gratified his ruling passion—The Judges objections have undoubtedly arisen from the circumstance, that this mode of fortifying against the Indians, has been heretofore practiced in our Country, and that all Towns which have been fortified in this way have been protected. He considers the Man destitute of talents, who will tread in paths, which have before been trod. He despises every thing tinged with the rust of antiquity, and is enamoured with modern improvements and speculations, whether on the Earth or in the Sun. Unfortunate it is indeed, that a Man of his fine talents, cannot level them to useful & practical purposes—

I believe there is not an honest Man in the Territory (excepting the Judge, for I believe him honest,) who does not think these fortifications useful and necessary—

I have the honor to enclose you a plan of them, and the best opinions, which can be here obtained—

There is an unfortunate circumstances attends them— They probably for a few years may interfere with his favorite plan of the [Ms. defaced] This is a primary object with him. I may be mistaken, but I do consider the security of this post; and the safety of the People, Objects of more consequence

I have the honor to be very
Respectfully your Most
Obedient Servant
WILLIAM HULL.

P. S. I would thank you to communicate this to the Secretary of State, as the Judges letter was addressed to him

PETITION OF WHITMORE KNAGGS

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America

The Petition of Whitmore Knaggs, Interpreter, for the Indian Department at Detroit in the Territory of Michigan, respectfully sheweth, that in the month of July in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty four, your petitioner purchased of the chiefs of the Ottawa nation of Indians, a tract of Land forty acres in front, and one hundred acres in depth, and received from them a formal conveyance, for the same; that your petitioner by accident lost the said instrument of conveyance, and upon representing to the Chiefs of the said Ottawa nation of Indians, that he had lost it, they afterwards, to wit, on the twelfth day of May one

thousand seven hundred and ninety seven at Detroit executed to your Petitioner another instrument of conveyance for the said tract of land, recognizing and confirming his prior title to the same—After the first mentioned Grant, your petitioner, made considerable improvement, on the said tract of land by putting a great part of it in a state of cultivation, and by erecting convenient buildings, and planting an orchard on the same; The dwelling house which was erected on the premises was pulled down and destroyed by the troops under the command of the late General Wayne, in August 1794; Your Petitioner has since rebuilt the same and has put himself to very considerable expenses in improving the said premises. The local Situation of the said tract of Land and the boundaries of the same, will be seen, by reference to the Deed from the Indian Chiefs, accompanying this Petition; and which has been registered in the proper office in Detroit.

Your Petitioner is well aware that the conveyance from the Indian Chiefs, can give no legal title to your Petitioner, unless sanctioned by the Legislative authority of the United States, he therefore appeals to Congress, for a confirmation of his claim; and respectfully submits, whether in consequence, of the service which he has rendered and is daily rendering to the United States, as an Indian Interpreter whether by reason of the expenses he has incurred in improving the said tract of land, and, finally, whether by the wishes and intentions of the Indians, who have since by treaty conveyed to the United States the country embracing the said tract of land, he has not a claim upon the *Liberality at least,* (if not) the

Justice of Congress for a confirmation of his Right.

Your Petitioner therefore prays Congress, to secure him in his title to the said tract of Land, as designated and described in the accompanying deed from the Indian chiefs, and shall ever pray &c—&c.

W. KNAGGS

[Endorsed]
Petition
of
WHITMORE KNAGGS
Agent for the Indian
tribes &c
29 December 1807.
referred to Committee on
Public Lands
6th February 1809
referred to the Committee on the
Public Lands
18th February, 1812
Refd to the Committee on the Public Lands.
[?]

JEFFERSON TO CONGRESS

To the Senate & House of Representatives of the United States.

I communicate to Congress the inclosed letters from Governor Hull respecting the Indians in the vicinity of Detroit residing within our lines. They contain information of the state of things in that quarter which will

properly enter into their view in estimating the means to be provided for the defence of our country generally.

TH. JEFFERSON
Dec. 30 1807.

[Endorsed]
Message from the P. U. S. communicating letters from Gov. Hull

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1807. Dec. 30. Recd.

Series 2
Doct 115
Letter Govr Hull.

HULL TO DEARBORN

[Enclosure in Jefferson to Congress, Dec. 30]

Sir Detroit, November 1807—

In consequence of your Letter of the 27th Sept last, containing the Instructions of the President to be communicated to the Indians, I have called together a Number of the Chiefs of different Nations and delivered to them the following speech

My Children.

I have received a Speech from your Great Father of the Seventeen fires, with directions to communicate it to you—I do it with pleasure because the advice in it is a further evidence of his paternal care—It is designed for your own good and the good of your Women & Children —Listen to it with attention, and seriously consider its contents— —

The Speech was then delivered and fully explained by the Interpreter———

My Children—Thus you see the interest your Great Father takes in your welfare—How anxious he is to promote your happiness—how desirous he is to prevent you from taking any measures which will involve you in ruin—How generous in advising you to remain quiet Spectators of any differences that may take place between the white p[e]ople.—How candid in warning you of the fate of any tribe, who should have the hardihood to raise the hatchet against us——

My Children,

If you are faithful to yourselves—If you desire to promote your own happiness, and that of your Women & Children, if you expect a continuance of protection and those friendly offics which you are constantly receiving, If indeed as your great father expresses it, you expect to continue in the Land which covers the bones of your fathers, you will listen to his paternal Council, and call the Great Spirit to witness your solemn determination to follow his advice—

My Children—I expect from you a plain, decided answer, which I shall immediately transmit to the great Council fire of the Nation.

To which Nanaume, a Chief of the Pottawatamie Nation made the following reply.

"Father

"We have listened to what you said to us yesterday—
"We have had a Council by ourselves and I now speak
"the opinion of all my Brethren present; and I believe
"I express the wishes of the whole Pottawatamie Na-
"tion—

"Father

"We thank the Great Spirit, that our Father of the "Seventeen fires does not wish to involve us in the "quarrels of the white people—We hope they will have "none—If they have any they had better settle them by "themselves—

"Father We wish the British would give us the same "advice, as we receive from our great father the Pres- "ident of the U. S. We believe he is strong because he "does not want any aid from us—We believe the British "are weak because they want us to assist them—

"Father

"We remember former times, how they deceived us— "When we pass the Banks of the Miami, we see the ruins "of the old British Fort—It reminds us of our fathers, "who fell on those fatal plains It reminds us how they "were driven to combat against the Americans, and the "fatal consequences which followed—It reminds us of "the ingratitude of the British; how they shut the Gates "against us when we were flying to them for protection

"Father

"We never will again place any dependence on them— "They have deceived us once, and we will not confide "in them again—

"Father

Why should we fight their battles—If they should be "successful, we shall gain nothing by the contest—If "they should be unfortunate it will end in our destruc- tion.—— —

"Father.

"We live in your Country. We are under your pro- "tection—You feed us when we are hungry. You cloathe

"us when we are naked, we receive every year Money "and valuable goods from our Great Father the Pres- "ident—Altho' we have not the advantages of learning "as you white people have. we have too much under- "standing, to forfeit all these advantages—We have too "much justice and gratitude, to injure our friends and "benefactors.

"Father,

It is true we were invited to Malden—we have been "there some time—we have been promised valuable "presents, we have received little besides promises.

"Father,

We have left them—we will not return to them—We "will take the advice of our great father of the seventeen "fires, and remain quiet Spectators of your quarrels, if "you should have any—This is the determination of all "the Chiefs here present

"Father,

When you first sent for us we immediately prepared to "come and see you—Capt McKee prevented us from "coming then; he renewed his promises of presents to "us and gave us a Keg of Spirits. That fatal Keg then "stopped us—We were stopped a second and a third "time—At last without his Knowledge we crossed the "River—We are now happy on your shore and safe "under your protection

"Father,

" Inform our Great Father we take him by the hand, "we will hold it fast, and always listen to and follow his "council—May the Great Spirit ever protect him and "the people of the U. States—

"Then Poaqueboa a Chief of the Chippewa Nation
"spoke as follows—
"Father,
"Your red Children present salute you
"Father,
"Your red Children, through you take their good and
"great father the President of the U. States by the
"hand, and to his advice make the following reply.
Our Great Father the President of the United States—
"Bad Birds hover about us, but our ears are shut to their
"advice, Our ears are open to nothing but the Councils
"of our Great Father
"Father,
You cannot, you must not suppose our intentions bad,
"or that we are hostile to our Brethren the whites of the
"United States; for do you not see us here, surrounded
"by our Women & Children Councilling with you.
"Father,
We are informed that is possible a rupture may take
"place between the English and the Americans, If that
"event should happen, we are determined not to take a
"part on either side, but remain quietly in our Villages,
"taking care of our Women and Children and cultivating
"our cornfields—
"Father,
Your Children wish to enjoy a continuance of the
"blessings of peace with you, Our hopes are in you,
"our dependence is on you, our only wish is to remain
"for ever with you——
"Father,
Many of our people are ignorant, many of them are

"wicked—We cannot answer for their conduct—If some "of them should raise the tomahawk, they must answer "for the consequences—

"Father,

Our solemn determination is, never to raise the "hatchet against the United States—We too well know "the fatal consequences of it, for if we are hungry, our "father feeds us; if we are dry our father gives us to "drink, if we are naked, our father cloathes us; all "which benefits we should forfeit by so doing.

"Father,

If the war pipe is offered us to smoake, we will reject "it, we will send from among us all persons who give "us bad council——

"Father,

One of our war Chiefs is a going on a visit to see our "Great Father the President of the U. S. we hope he "will be received and treated as his Son, and we pray "the Great Spirit to return him to us in health—

"Father,

Bad birds fly amongst the whites, as well as the red "people; we hope you will not listen to them, but trust to "the honor of your Children

"May the Great Spirit watch over us all"

The Chiefs of the Ottawa Nation, and of the Wyandot Nation, have made similar determinations, and I have great confidence in their sincerity

I am Sir very Respectfully
Your Most Obedient Servant,
William Hull

The Hon Henry Dearborn
Secretary of War

Hull to Dearborn

[Enclosure in Jefferson to Congress, Dec. 30.]

To Henry Dearborn Esqr Detroit 24th Novr 1807.
Secretary of War.

Sir—

I now have the pleasure to inform you, that a number of principal chiefs, have returned from Malden and are now here. I have examined them separately and they give this account—in which they all agree—That Aubayway called there on his way home from here. That Great Attention was paid to him by McKee and the British Officers—That four days ago they were called to a Council. That they were informed that a war would soon take place between them and the Americans—and that they (the Indians) must take up the hatchet in their favor agst the Americans—that before they gave an answer, they held a council by themselves, and appointed Aubayway to make this answer, which was as follows—

"That they lived under the protection of the United States; that they were treated with justice and kindness, by that great father the President—That they had lately made a treaty, in which they acknowledge themselves, under the protection of the United States, and no other power—That they had received, and were entitled to valuable presents from the United States—That their Great Father the President did not ask them to involve themsleves in the quarrels of the White People—but to remain quiet spectators—That they were all determined to take his advice. That it was an evidence he was

strong enough to fight his own battles—That after this council many of them left Malden, although they were all urged to remain"

I have every reason to believe this to be true; as many as seven or eight hundred have called here, within two or three days on their way to their villages—I treat them kindly and give them what they want to eat—I hope in a few days, they will go to their villages & hunting grounds and the issues of provisions will cease—You will find the issues of provisions the last month and this very large, on account of the Treaty, paying them their Fort Industry money and vast numbers of them returning from Malden—It is however nothing, compared to what has been issued by the British—That you say is no rule for us—I think however we had better feed them, than fight them. The Presidents advice has a very happy effect on them—

I am respectfully, your
Most Obt and Hum Servt
William Hull

Dyson to Dearborn

Sir Detroit Feby 1st 1808

Enclosed I have the honor to transmit you a copy of Lieut Henry B. Brevoorts report of freights made by the U. States Brig Adams for the last year

The Picketts Round the Fort at this post are entirely decayed & are not sufficient to keep the cattle from the works white cedar can be procured here from twenty to twenty five dollars pr hundred eighteen feet in length

& eight or nine Inches in diameter. Should you think proper I will thank you to direct the purchase so that they may be Ready to put up early in the spring

I have the Honor to be

Sir

P. S. Very Respectfully
we are cleaning & repairing Your Obed Servt
the old Arms as fast as possible. Saml T. Dyson
S. T. D. Capt Comdg
Capt

The Honbl
Henry Dearborn

Private Freights Carried by Brig Adams

[Enclosure in Dyson to Dearborn, Feb. 1.]

private freights

D. O. Dunham	166.87½	McKinac
O. Phelps	19.62½	Cannandagua
G. Hull	60	Detroit
T. Pothier	72	Montreal
I. Geasson	62.12½	ditto
R. Hamilton	7.87½	Quenstown U.C
I. Blakley	5.37½	Montreal
H. Berthelett	3.75	Detroit
Moses Davids	5.68¾	Sandwich U.C
B. Huntington	4.50	New York
I. James McGregor	1 "	Sandwich
D. O. Dunham	13.12½	McKinac

$421.93¾

Report of Freights Carried by Brig Adams

[Enclosure in Dyson to Dearborn, Feb. 1.]

Spring well
31st Jany 1808

Sir

The following is a statement of the freights both public & private carried in 1807 on board the Adams—

Amount of public freight	$1481.68¼
" of private "	421.93¾
" of contingencies during the season	91.95
	329.98
Amount of monies stolen out of the cabbin supposed to be taken by David Johnson of Capt Dysons Company, since deserted	230
	99.98¾
Total amount of public & private freight	1581- 67
Amount of the crews pay as Rolls	1913- 79
The ship falls In debt	$332.- 12

I Remain Sir
Respectfully
Your obedt & Most Hble Servt
Signed - Hy B. Brevoort Lieut
Comdg the Adams

I Certify that the foregoing is a true copy from the Original in my possession. Detroit Feby 1st 1808

Saml T. Dyson
Capt of A Comdg

War Department Order

Sir, War Department 19 Febry 08

Saml T. Dyson
335.
246.

Your letter of the 1st Inst. covering a Copy of Lt Brevoorts report of freights made by the U. S. Brig Adams in 1807. has been received

You will please to procure & put up new Cedar Picketts round the Fort at Detroit

I am &c

War Department Order

Sir War Department 26 Febry 08

Jon, Williams
299.
282.

The obvious necessity of making every possible exertion for commencing and completing the fortifications, contemplated at the vairous ports and harbors within the U. S. is such as to render immediate arrangements indispensable, for carrying into effect, the Intentions of the Government on the subject of defensive works. You will therefore, with as little delay as practicable, please to direct the different Engineers, to repair to the respective places where their Services are required

I herewith enclose a list of the ports, Harbors and Rivers generally, where works are to be erected or completed

As it may not be expedient to calculate generally on Works, constructed of the most durable materials, except the foundations, where Stone or brick can be conveniently obtained, the works must be erected with Such materials and on such principles, as will give them all the essential qualities required, except that of permanent durability; and as great a Share of this quality, Should be given to the principal fortifications, as Circumstances will permit.

There will be suitable agents appointed, at each place for purchasing materials, and engaging and paying Such Workmen as may be requisite

You will please to have Sketches of the different works drawn for the use of the respective Engineers, which in point of dimension, proportions & shape, must be considered by the respective Engineers, as their Guide as far as Circumstances will allow. For many of the less important points, some general principle may be adopted in your directions and drawings, to be varied only, as the particular Shape or make of the site may require.—There will be many batteries, that should be constructed for only, from two to four Cannon, with larger or smaller Block-houses, according to the size of the Battery—There will be others that will

require from six to ten Cannon, with Strong blockhouses or redoubts, in proportion to the importance of the place & the Strength of the Batteries—I must take the liberty of recommending the adoption, in such places as they may be suited to, the kind of Blockhouses & Redoubts, we have frequently conversed about, especially for the larger batteries, among the 2nd or 3rd Grade of Works.

I am &c.

DYSON TO [DEARBORN?]

Detroit April 15th 1808

Sir

I had the honor to receive your favor of the 19th Feby. The picketts are contracted for & will be put up with as little delay as possible—

Some difficulty will arrise respecting the land held heretofore at this port by the Military.

The Legislator has sold (or given as donations) several lots which the Individuals wish to improve. I have forbid untill I have the honor of Receiving your instructions [on] the subject.

I have the Honor to be Sir
Very Respectfully
Your obedt Servt
SAML T DYSON
Capt. Comdg

War Department Order

Saml T. Dyson
381
294

Sir War Department 30 April 08

Yours of the 15th Inst is received—Excepting as to a suitable site for a Store, & landing on the bank of the River & the ground immediately above the Fort, it will not be necessary to interfere with the Arrangement of the Town

I am &c

War Department Order

Porter Hanks
191

Sir War Department 15 June 08.

You are hereby appointed assistant Military Agent for the Post at Michilimackinac—Should you accept the Agency, you will please to notify this Department & Genl Peter Gansevoort Junr Mil. Agent at Albany accordingly

I am &C

Dyson to [Dearborn?]

Sir Detroit July 23rd [1808]

Doctor Smiths health is, and has been such, since the beginning of this month, as you will perceive by the inclosed Certificate, that it will not admit of his leaving

here at present agreeably to your orders, and more particularly to travel through an extensive part of wilderness where no assistance can be had of any kind; I can assure you Sir that his delay has not been occasioned by any wish or disposition to evade, or disobey his orders.

I have the Honor to be Sir
Very Respectfully
Your obdt Servt
Saml T. Dyson
Capt Comdg

Certificate Concerning Health of W. C. Smith

[Enclosure in Dyson to [Dearborn?]]

It is my opinion that Doctr W. C. Smith, Surgeons mate in the Army of the United States is unable to endure the fatigue of a Journay or under go any hardship from his Ill Health
Detroit July 22, 1808.

Syl Day Surgeon's Mate

Resolution Relative to the Death of John Campbell

Michilimackinac, August 27th, 1808.

At a meeting of the American Officers and other American Gentlemen—Capt. Howard, President, and Lieut. Eastman, Secy. of the Meeting:

Resolved, unanimously, that the Members of this Meeting thank George Hoffman and Samuel Abbott, Esquires, Lieut. Hanks of Fort Michilimackinac, and the Officers

of British St. Joseph's, for the great attention paid by them, to the remains of John Campbell Esqr., late Indian Agent at La Prairie Du Chein.

They regret, most feelingly, the death of that man, and as a testimony of their regard for him whilst living, and as a respect to the memory of the deceased, who was a worthy member of Society, and valuable Public Officer, it is resolved, further, that the Americans of, and now at, this place do wear black crape on the left arm for forty days.

Resolved that the Secretary of this Meeting do transmit copies of the above resolutions to the Hon. Secretary of War, John Mason Esquire Agent Gen of Indian affairs and that Samuel H. Smith Esquire be, also, furnished with a Copy, and requested to publish it in the National Intelligencer.

Signed

A true Copy.
Attest,
J. Eastman,
Lt. Arty., & Secy.
of the Meeting.

Lewis Howard,
Capt. U. S. Artillery,
Commanding Mackinac
President.

Protest Relative to the Appointment of Robert Dickson as Indian Agent

Confidential.

Michilimackinac,
September 15th 1808.

Sir,

In troubling you with this letter we are actuated merely by a desire that our Government shall be fully and cor-

rectly informed on a subject which may very materially concern the interest of the United States in the Indian Country.

A Mr Robert Dickson has started for Washington City—And we are told for the express purpose of applying for the Office of Indian Agent for the Upper Mississippi—which, you will have heard ere this reaches you, became vacant by the premature and untimely death of John Campbell, Esq. We consider this Gentleman totally unfit for the Appointment, and feel perfectly convinced that should he be fortunate enough to succeed in having his wishes gratified immense & almost incalculable injury will result therefrom to the United States.

Mr Dickson was born and educated in Scotland—He resided in this Country a few years before and since the evacuation of the Western Posts by the British—He did not declare his intention of remaining a British subject within the time limited by Jay's treaty, and may therefore claim all the rights, privileges & immunities of an American Citizen. But, from his conversations with us at various times, and from his general deportment before us, we are satisfied that, in heart & sentiment, he is a British subject—And we rejoice for our Country that altho' treaties & laws must recognize him as an American Citizen, this alone does not insure to him the office which he is now seeking. Allow us to assure you, however, before we proceed further, that it is by no means our wish to detract from the merit which Mr Dickson really possesses. Truth obliges us to acknowledge that he is a man of a very handsome education—that he possesses a tolerable fund of useful information—and that his manners are not disagreeable—

We are also informed that, once or twice, he conducted a few Indian Offenders and their friends from or near the river Moin to St. Louis to be delivered over into the hands of Justice—And that General Wilkinson, Governor Lewis & Secretary Bates rated these services very highly—And had they been disinterestedly performed, we think what Mr Dickson received would have been barely his due—But knowing his character and circumstances we cannot believe that Love for the Government of the United States prompted or stimulated him on these occasions—On the contrary we know that he had in view an object far more valuable, *to him,* in point of pecuniary consideration, And that he succeeded to his utmost expections—For he was generously compensated by way of money—And, at a time when there was almost a total interdiction of all Indian trade in Louisiana by British subjects, Mr. Bates, the then acting Governor, granted him permission to enter and trade with the Indians on the West side of the Mississippi without reqüiring even the usual and necessary Bond & surety for the observance of the rules and regulations on the subjects of trade and intercourse with the Indians—And subjoined in a writing which has been seen by some of us, that all this amounted to but a very inadequate recompence for the services Mr Dickson had rendered our Government. We do not presume to impeach the understanding or the integrity of either of the three Gentlemen just named—They were deceived & therefore judged wrong.

Mr. Dickson, it is probable, will produce at Washington City letters of recommendation from persons of great respectability & high in office—But be assured that his insinuating & imposing manners have alone procured

them—From Governor Hull he may receive one—to him he is an utter stranger except perhaps for a few days he may have stopped at Detroit on his way to the States—

He is better known at this place than any where else.

His connexion with a very formidable company of British fur traders ought to be, itself, we conceive, a good reason for refusing to appoint him to an office of so much trust & responsibility as that of Indian Agent for the Upper Mississippi is. In whatever shape or manner he may try to convince you, or the President, that he is no longer a partner of the Michilimackinac Company, or that he has renounced and abjured all allegiance to the King of Great Britain and sworn fidelity to our Government let us warn you to beware how you credit him. When offices of little income were offered him he declined accepting by saying that he owned allegiance to another sovereignty.

It can hardly be expected that whilst he is a subject of a foreign power with which the United States are now at great variance, and whilst he holds a share, or any interest at all, in the concerns of a Company of fur traders composed of his fellow subjects, that he will much consult the good or interest of our Government, when it shall be likely to come in contact with that of Great Britain, or his own, or that of the persons with whom he is connected—We think it highly probable that, thus situated, he will consider it his duty to do all in his power to forward the interest of his real sovereigns, and principally by prejudicing the minds of the Indians against the Americans, and using other low means, in the power of all Indian traders, to the injury of the United States,

as has already been frequently done by British subjects.

An Indian Agent acquires great influence over Indians by the mere appointment. Should Dickson succeed he will add to it that which he derives from a long residence amongst them—and that which he possesses from his connexion with them by way of Indian marriage with one of the principal women of the Sioux Nation, and, we think, will then use & exercise all this power & influence for the sole benefit & advantage, as we have just said, of his Master, and of the British Company of fur traders, to whom he is largely indebted, and on whom he is in a great degree dependent.

From a letter written by Governor Lewis to the late Mr Campbell it appears that even the members of this Company are not exempt from the charge of tampering with the Indians, and that they have laid themselves liable to suspicions that to make money by trading is not the only object they are in pursuit of—

The affair which occasioned the death of Mr Campbell would have been honorably and amicably settled but for the officious interference of Dickson—It is, by many here, supposed that an old grudge against Campbell actuated Dickson to exert himself so as to carry the dispute to extremity—Mr Campbell was, besides, a most formidable barrier to the success of the Company in their impositions on the Indians and other nefarious schemes against the peace and tranquility of the United States in that Quarter.

The appointment of Dickson is most anxiously wished for by his Copartners and, indeed, it seems to us that they already calculate on it.

The estate & effects of Campbell have fallen into the hands of four of the Company, being named executors of a will dated in 1802—His last wish, however, was that two American Gentlemen of this place should take charge of it—But contrary to his ideas, the verbal appointment could not prevail against the written.

The intention of this communication must plead our excuse for troubling you with it.

With sentiments of high regard & respect,
We have the honor to be, Sir,
very respectfully, your Obt. Sts.
Geo. Hoffman, (Col.Dt.Mka.)
Francis LeBaron, Surgs. Mate U.S.Army
Saml. Abbott, Asst.Judge Dt.Mac.

From information to be relied on as authentic we are satisfied of the truth of the statements contained in the foregoing letter and concur in every opinion with the Gentlemen who have signed it.

Lewis Howard
Capt. Commg. Mackina
H. B. Brevoort Lieut.
P. Hanks
Lieut. of Arty.
J. Eastman,
Lt. Arty. & D.P.M.

The Hon.
Henry Dearborn, Esq.
Secretary at War
Washington, City.

Dyson to Dearborn

Sir Fort Detroit Octr 1st 1808

I have the honor to enclose you and account of Benjamin Chittendens for rations not drawn while he was in the employ of the U States as a Carpenter (he not being a soldier in the line) at this post for the years 1806 & 1807. The reason they were not drawn at the time they become due, is in consequence of his boarding out & did not want them, & being under the impression that he could receive money in lieu thereof at the contract price—

As no person seems authorized at this post to pay this money, I take the liberty to submit the amount for your consideration, & that you will give directions accordingly.

The building for the officers quarters in the Citadel is nearly complete & one of the barracks for the men will be raised this day

I have the honor to be Sir
Very Respectfully
Your obedt Servt
Saml T. Dyson,
Capt of A Comdg

The Honbl
H. Dearborn
Secy of War

War Department Order

Saml T. Dyson
381.

Sir War Department 21 Octr 08

Benj. Chittendens Account for 1095 Rations, due him from 1 Jany 1806 to Decr

31st 1807 received in yours of the 1st Inst. is herewith returned—You will please to order the Asst Mily. Agent to settle with him, at the Contract Price

I am &

Daniel Baker to Henry Dearborn

Hon. Henry Dearborn
Secretary of War
Sir Fort Detroit Nov. 10. 180[8?]

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your instructions of the 15 ultimo on the subject of Ext[r]a Labor performed by the Soldie[rs] of this Garrison in the months of July and August last, and shall make payment accordingly.

I have the honor to be
with the greatest respect
Sir
Your Obt
Daniel Baker
Lieut & Asst M Agt

Hull to Dearborn

Honble H. Dearborn
Secretary of War—
Sir— Detroit 1st Decembr 1808.

I have furnished Mr Knaggs with eight hundred Dollars, to defray the expences of the Chiefs of

the different Nations, on their Journey to Washington, for which I have taken his duplicate Receipts,—I have drawn bills on you to that amount, in favor of Mr John Williams—

I wish Mr Knaggs to account with the government for that amount—

Mr Arche Lyons, who accompanies Mr Knaggs as an Assistant, I engaged should receive one Dollar a day, & his expences—He has received nothing in advance—

I am respectfully

your most obedt Servt—

William Hull

Hull to Dearborn

Detroit 30th Decembr 1808.

Honble H. Dearborn,

Secretary of War—

Sir—

The inclosed letter ought to have been in the Post Office at the time it is dated—It was omitted by mistake—It relates the annuities for the Indians the next year.

I hope no inconvenience will [ms. defaced] the delay—

I am respectfully

W Hull

Hull to Dearborn

[Enclosure in Hull to Dearborn, Dec. 30.]

Detroit 15th Novr 1808.

Honble H Dearborn
Secretary of War—
Sir—

Inclosed are memorandums of Goods, which it is desired may be sent the next year, for those nations, who will receive at this place—

The Ottawas desire to be paid, in a similar manner with the Wyandots, and with the same kind of Goods, as are contained in the inclosed Invoice for that Nation— The Shawanese desire their Greenville Annuities in Specie—From what I have been able to learn, I believe it would be most satisfactory to the Pottawattamies, to pay the Annuity due by the Treaty of Greenville, in Goods similar to the Chippewas contained in the inclosed memorandum, and that the Goods should be equally divided, and that one half should be sent to Chicago, and the other half to this place; And that the Annuities which will be due to that Nation by the Treaty of Grousland, should be sent to Fort Wayne in Specie, and what will be due by the Treaties of Fort Industry, & Detroit, should be paid at Detroit, in Specie—Indeed, what is due to that Nation by the Treaty of Fort Industry, is connected with the Chippewas and Ottawas, and indeffinite— By their own Agreement, I have heretofore paid them four hundred dollars—The Pottawattamies, who reside in this part of the Country, will consider it very unjust, to deprive them of the whole of the Annuity due to the

Nation, by the Treaty of Greenville, & by the Treaties of Fort Industry, & Detroit, those of the Nations living on the Rivers Huron & Raisin are exclusively entitled—

I am respectfully,

Your most Obedt Servt

WILLIAM HULL

MEMORANDUM OF GOODS FOR THE CHIPPEWAS

[Enclosure in Hull to Dearborn, Nov. 15]

Memorandum of Articles wanted for the Chippewas for their annuity of One thousand Dollars, under the Treaty of Greenville, for the year 1809.

120 Three point Blankets, with One blue stripe at each end.
200 yards best blue Strouds.
150 yards Callico, of a good quality.
150 Do Do second quality
20 Do Common blue broad cloth.
100 [lbs.?] Gun Powder.
200 [lbs.?] Lead.
1000 flints.
6 Doz. Common Shawls.
50 [lbs.?] [Rappea?] Snuff.
150 [lbs.?] plug Tobacco.—
200 [lbs.?]Brass Kettles
12 Doz: Common Jack Knives.
1000 assorted needles.
6 [lbs.?] Thread.
2 Boxes Cotton Balls.
1 Gross Jewsharps.— —

The Chippewas wish the annuities due them by the Treaties of Fort Industry and Detroit to be sent in Specie.

Memorandum of Goods for the Wyandots

[Enclosure in Hull to Dearborn, Nov. 15.]

Memorandum of Articles wanted for the Wyandots for their annuity of One Thousand Dollars, by the Treaty of Greenville, for the year 1809—

60 Three point Blankets, with one blue stripe at each end
60 yds. best blue Strouds—
100 yds Best Callico—
100 yds Second quality Callico—
40 yds fine blue broad cloth—
40 yds Grey Bath Coating, best quality.
100 [lbs.?] Gun powder.
200 [lbs.?] Lead.
1 Doz. Bandana Hkfs.
6 pairs Spectacles.
6 small looking Glasses.
100 Needles.
6 [lbs.?]Sewing thread, of various colours—
6 pieces fine Irish linen.
6 good Rifles.
6 Saddles.
50 [lbs.?] [Rappea?] Snuff.
150 [lbs.?] Chewing Tobacco, plug.
1000 Flints.
3 Doz large Green handled Carving Knives.

The Wyandots, wish the annuities due them by the Treaties of fort Industry, and Detroit, to be sent in Specie.

War Department Order

Jacob Kingsbury
103.

Sir War Department 4 Jany 09

You are hereby notified that the Prest of the U.S. by and with the advice & consent of the Senate thereof promote you to the rank of Colonel [vice?] Thomas Hunt deceased 18 August 1808.

I am &c —

Speech of Thomas Jefferson to the Indians

My Children Chiefs of the Ottaways, Chippeways, Potawatomies, Wyndots and Shawnese,
I have considered the speech you have delivered me, and I will now give you an answer to it,

You have told us on former occaisions of certain promises made to you at the treaty of Greenville by Genl Wayne, respecting certain lands whereon you and your friends live, But when we looked into the Treaty of Greenville we found no such promises there; and as it is our custom to put all our agreements into writing that they may never be forgotten or mistaken, we concluded no such promises had been made, But you now explain that the Chiefs of the Wyndots near Detroit, did not arrive at Greenville till after the Treaty was signed, that

they there convinced Genl Wayne that provision ought to be made for securing to them possession of the lands they lived on, so long as they and their descendants shall choose to live on them and that he agreed to it, of this, besides other evidence, you now produce the belt of Wampum reserved by you in memory of it, the counter belt given us having probably been destroyed in the fire which consumed our War Office in the year 1800. Such evidence therefore being now produced as induces a belief of the agreement it shall be committed to writing, according to what has pass'd between the Secty at War and yourselves and we will also put into writing what has past respecting the reserves for the indians, and you shall have a copy of these writings which shall be firm and good to you forever.

You complain that White people go on your lands and Settle without your consent. This is entirely against our will, and I earnestly desire you, my Children, as soon as any intruder, of the whites sets down on your lands, that you will not delay a moment to inform our Agent, who will always be instructed in the measures to be taken for their immediate removal; and I desire you, to do this, on your return, as to the intruders you now complain of.

The Secretary at War has explained to you the circumstances which attended the running the boundary line near Sandusky, under the Treaty at Swan's Creek so as to satisfy you, that no variation of it was intended; and you may be assured that when we proceed to run the lines for the roads granted us the last fall you shall have notice in order that your chiefs may attend and see it fairly done.

For these roads, with which your nation have been so friendly as to accomodate us, and which you wish'd us to accept as a present, I return you my thanks and I accept of them, and I request you on your part to accept as a token of our good will the sum of a thousand dollars, of which five hundred dollars will be paid you here; and we shall be happy if you can employ this sum to your benefit or comfort in any way. Our settlements are now extending so much every direction, that we shall be obliged to ask roads from our Indian Brethern, that we may pass conveniently from one Settlement to another, for which we will always gladly pay them the full value.

You have been informed as you desired, of the exact amount of your annuities.

I have, thus, my Children, answer'd all the parts of your Speech and I have done it sincerely and with good will to you. I have not filled you with whiskey, as the English do, to make you promise, or give up what is against your interest, when out of your senses, I have listened to your complaints, and proposals, I have found them reasonable and I have given you the answers which a just and a reasonable nation ought to do, and this, may be assured, is the way in which we shall always do business with you because we do not consider you as another nation, but as a part of us living indeed under your own laws, but having the same interests with us, I hope you will tell these things to your people and that they will sink deep into their minds,

Th Jefferson
Jany. 31. 1809

(Copy)

Daniel Baker to Secretary of War

The Hon. Secretary of War

Sir, Fort Detroit March 16, 1809

From recent information from the Inspectors Office it appears that there is now a vacancy for Lieutenant Hughes, and that in consequence of which, the Adjutancy of the 1st Regiment will soon become vacant. Therefore I beg leave to solicit that appointment from the date of his Promotion, if consistant with the rule of office, as it cannot materially interfere with my present duties. Colonel Kingsbury, to whom I have written on the subject, is well acquainted with me, and should I be so fortunate as to obtain the Appointment, and he should have the smallest objection to it, I shall most willingly relinquish any pretentions to it. I was appointed to that situation by the Hon. Secretary of war, and continued to discharge the duties of the Office, I believe, to the satisfaction of all concerned for nearly three years, when I resigned it with the entire approbation of my Colonel, who as well as many others of my military friends thought I could better my situation by so doing.— Being informed by Colonel Burbeck that the Agents on the sea board are allowed a commission of one percent on all moneys expended by them for Public purposes, and that in his opinion, it is reasonable the same allowance should extend to me, I have been induced to make out and inclose my account agreeably there to, which should you deem admissible, I beg leave most respectfully to request you will have the goodness to order paid.

Request for Commission on Monies Expended for Public Purposes

[Encloseure in Daniel Baker to Secretary of War, March 16.]

The United States
to Lieutenant Daniel Baker Asst Mily Agt Dr

To one percent on $6920 11/100 Expended at the post of Detroit in the year 1806 for public purposes as per account rendered Decr 31 1806—		$69.20
To Ditto	on 7121 64/100 Expended in the year 1807 as per Account rendered Decr 31, 1807—	$71.21½
To Ditto	on 12794 88/100 Expended in year 1808 as per acct rendered Decr 31. 1808—	127.94½
To Ditto	on 3589 96/100 Expended in erecting works of defence at Detroit, Rivers Huron & Raisin as per Acct rendered in the year 1808—	35.90
	Dollars	304.26

War Department Order

Comg Officer at Detroit
131.

Sir War Department 4 April 09

Should the public Service & other previous engagements permit I have to request, at the Instance of Govr Hull, that the brig

Adams may be ordered to be at Buffaloe Creek by the 10th of next Month, as the Governor will probably be there at that time on his return to Detroit, & wishes the accommodation of a passage to that Place

I am &c

Signed Jno Smith C.C. &c

Daniel Baker to John Smith

Sir, Fort Detroit April 18, 1809.

I have this day received your instructions of the 15th ultimo together with a copy of An Act of Congress therein mentioned, which I shall endeavour to observe and comply with.

I have the honor to be,

Respectfully

Sir

Your Obt

John Smith Esquire
Acting Secy of War

Daniel Baker
Lieut & Asst Mily Agt

Reuben Attwater to Secretary of War

Honbl Secretary at War.—

Sir.— Detroit April 21st 1809

On the 18th instant I received your letter of the 15th of March last, encloseing an act, further to amend the several acts for the establishment and regulation of the Treasury, war, and navy departments, also an extract

from so much of the Act makeing appropriations for the support of the military establishment of the United States, and of the navy for the year one thousand eight hundred and nine, as relates to the former.—

Which acts shall be duly attended to by me while acting as Governor and Superintendent of Indian affairs.—

Respectfully

Your Obedient servant

Reuren Attwater

War Department Order

Sir War Department 27 April 09

Daniel Baker
125.
59.

I have received yours of the 16th Ult. but cannot allow the Commission of one per Cent on the monies expended by you as Asst Mily Agt at Detroit. These Monies were disbursed by you in the execution of the ordinary duties of your agency, and of course no other Compensation is allowable than what the law prescribes—

Your application for the Adjutancy of the 1st Regt should be made to the Colonel

I am &c

War Department Order

Sir War Department 29 April 09

Willm Hull
180.
——

Your Excellencys Letter of the 23rd Inst. has been received and duly consid-

ered. At present however it is not deemed expedient to extend our military posts as proposed therein

I am &c—

JACOB KINGSBURY TO WILLIAM EUSTIS

Norwich, Connecticut,
Sir, 1st May, 1809——

I am happy in hearing that you are at the head of the War Department, and have recently entered on the duties of the Office of Secretary of War, and do myself the honor of reporting to you; On the fifteen of last February I received an Order from General Dearborn to report to Detroit and relieve Colonel Burbeck in the Command of that District, immediately on receipt of the Order I wrote to him and made application to remain here until May, previous to my letter reaching the War office, General Dearborn had left Washington for Boston, and left Mr Smith Clerk in the War Department to Officiate as Secretary, until an appointment was made, Mr Smith gave me permission to remain here until May; within a few weeks past my Children have been extremely ill with a fever, and are now recovering but slowly which induces me to Solicit of you a further indulgence, until the Twenty fifth of (next Month) June, I can then proceed with much more Convenience to myself and family than at this time; If you think proper to grant my request, I shall Esteem it as a particular favor, If you should not grant it, I must immediately on receipt of your answer, write on to the pay Master General, for-

ward my Amount for pay, &c, and March, on the receipt of my money without loss of time; however I hope to obtain your permission to remain here until the latter end of June—

I have the honor to remain
With great respect,
and due submission,
your most Obdt Servt
Jacob Kingsbury Colonel
1st Regt Infantry—

Honorable
William Eustis
Secretary of War—

War Department Order

War Department, 2 May, 1809.

Sir,

L. H. Gansevoort. 102/72

Your letter of the 21st Ult. is received. The Treasurer of the U .S. will remit you the further sum of $600 on account of the transportation of Indian Annuities and $2100 on account of Military transportation; Camp Equipage, &c. You will from time to time advise this Department of the sum of Money required to meet the Expenditures in your Agency, and the particular purposes for which they are wanted.

I am &c.

War Department Order

Jacob Kingsbury
318.
22.

Sir War Department 10 May 1809

Col. Burbeck having been ordered to this Place, by my Predecessor from whom I was led to expect, that Mr Burbeck would have been here before June—I have learned that his preparations have been made to embark in the Month of June— In this state of things you will perceive the necessity of your relieving them without delay; & that indulgence of another furlough cannot be granted.

I am &c

Dyson to Eustis

Sir Detroit May 11th 1809

I have the honor to enclose you an Abstract for Extra Labor performed here in September and October last while the Garrison was under my command. I forwarded a Similar one for the months of July and August to your predecessor and he directed the Assistant Military Agent to pay it but he does not now feel disposed to pay those until he shall have received further Instructions from you

I have the honor to be Sir
Very Respectfully
Your obedt Servt
Saml T. Dyson
Capt 1st Regt U S Artillery

Honbl
Wm Eustice
Secy of War

Kingsbury to Eustis

Norwich, Connecticut,
Sir, 19th May, 1809—

I have the honor of acknowledging the receipt of your letter of the 10th instant, which I did not receive until yesterday, I have this day made out my Amount for pay, Forage, and subsistance, to include the last of this Month, and forwarded it to the Pay Master General, with a request to enclose me the Money by returning Mail, on receipt of which, I shall march without delay, and shall use my utmost endeavours to reach Detroit as soon as possible, In Conformity to your Orders—

I am Sir,
With great respect,
And due submission
Your most Obdt Servt—
Jacob Kingsbury Colonel
1st Regt. Infantry—

Honorable
William Eustis
Secretary of War—

J. Dubuque to Abbot and Hoffman

Prairie des Chien 13 Juin 1809

Messrs Abbot & Hoffman
Messirs—

J'ai eu l'honneur de recevoir vos lettre le 22de Fe/rer dernier en date du 17 d'aouet precedent, par laquelle

J'ai appris la triste nouvelle de la mort de notres respectable amie feu John Campbell, et appres avoir donné à sa memoire toutes les marques des respect et de regret que je devois a son merite et a son amitié pour moi, je me suis mis â accomplir, selon le meilleur des mes Connoissances, ses dernier volunté à l'egard de son Emploi comme agent des Sauvages pour les Etas unies. Quoique dans cet moment, ma Santé etois tres foible et mes forces presque epuisé par une Maladie Langoureuse, je ne pouvois pas decider autrement que de faire attention au dernier volunté d'un ami respectable, communiqué par Vous Messrs.

Je l'ai donc accepté, mais au bout d'un mois et vingt huit jours trouvant que la maladie que m'accablé augmenté de jour en jour me suis adressé au Gouverneur Lewis pour lui prier de mettre quelqu'un a ma place, ma demande fut accepté et Monsr. Boisvin[?] a arrivé le 28me. de Novembre a qui j'ai cedé tous les papiers qu'ettois alors entre mes mains en me demettant du place d'agent pour les Sauvages.

Durant le temps que j'ai servé comme agent, la situation du paiée etois tres critique, et je fut obligé pour tenir les Sauvages dans la tranquilité (que la mort du Defunt avoient troublé) de leurs faire des Present pour la Montant du Compte ci enclos—N'ayant pas d'ordres particulier à cette egard mais voyant la necessité absolu de cette demarche, j'ai pris sur moi meme de le faire dans l'espoir que le Governement des Etas Unies, n'hesiterez pas a confirmer ce que des circonstance si critique exigé.

Je vous prie bien Messieurs de vouloir vous interesser

pour moi pour me trouver des moyens de obtenir du Governement la paiement des Demande que j'ai si bien merité par mes Services.

En attendant la plaisir de vos reponce

J'ai l'honneur d'etre
avec boucoup de Consideration
votre tres humble et
tres obeissant Serviteur
J Dubuque

Lewis Howard to Eustis

Michillimackanac
June 15th 1809

Honble Wm Eustis
Secy of War
Sir

Agreeable to the request Contained in the enclosed letter, I have the Honor to address you—As respects the keeping of three Horses at this Post; I Am pretty well assured, from the experience of the last winter, that even this number are insufficient, unless they were Able & Stout; Mr O Bannon had a pair of borrowed Oxen, which were fed from the public fodder, & I am informed that he found sufficient employment for them and the Horses; the price of Corn I am informed was in the spring of 1808 as high as $2.50 and other fodder in proportion—Since my command the (last year) Grain has been at $1.50, the Hay I have had cut by the men of my Company, at a Prairie about 15 miles from this place, and shall continue to do so, while the strength of the Garrison is such as to Authorize my sending out a de-

tachment for that purpose; this costs the Public nothing more than a little extra Whiskey

The three old Horses on hand when I took the Command (in August last) were (two of them particularly) so nearly worn out that I found it necessary to order the purchase of a stout young Canadian Horse which will serve the public well for 10 or 12 years and costs but $55 —And with this addition I found that not an hour could be lost; except when the weather made it impossible to turn out— The last of the three old Horses has been lately lost, by a wound he received from a stake in the woods, which cut an Artery & he died very soon after— I shall not order the purchase of another while I find it possible to do without hiring. which would very soon cost the price of a Good Cart Horse—As you probably may not have been informed of the uses for which so many creatures may be required, I will take the liberty of Stating that in the first place, the wood for Garrison use, is drawn from 2 to 3 miles over a very Hilly & Rocky road, which requires that the Carts Should be of Such weight & Strength as to be nearly a load for one Horse— in the Second, the allowance of wood cannot well be limited in this Severe climate, when the men get but one Blanket and must keep a little fire at all times in winter to prevent freezing—Add to which all the coal used in the Blacksmiths shop, which is very considerable (particularly in the Indian Department) as well as the stone for Burning lime for repairing the Garrison &c &c are drawn by these Horses—I know of no improvement that could be made, unless by disposing of the two old Horses remaining, for the little they would bring; and procuring in their place one Stout Horse and a pair of Strong Quiet

Oxen; the Oxen might be had from Detroit or chicago, & if brought in the Public Vessel would come cheap—they cost much less for Keeping, and when grown old, will at this place command a price that will replace them, with another pair, I am pretty well Satisfied that less than two Horses & two Oxen, or three *Stout Horses* will not answer; as the Wood is every year further to be drawn—I fear that you will find this lengthy detail very tedious and beg leave to close it by an Assurance that in all cases when the public interest is concerned, I shall consider it my first duty to promote it. I have the Honor to be, with Great respect your most obedt Servant

Lewis Howard Capt Artilly

[Simmons?] to Lewis Howard

[Enclosure in Howard to Eustis, June 15.]

Department of War
Accountants office
Nov: 7. 1808

Sir

I have been requested by The Secretary of war in consequence of some extravagant charges contained in the accounts of Lt O Bannon while acting as Military Agent at Michilimackinac to request of you information relative to the necessity for keeping three Horses at the Post, and feeding them with fodder, which costs The United States such considerable prices—such as Corn at two dollars & 50/100 per Bushel, and other articles of fodder in proportion. The report of the circumstances on this head, as well as any other amendment or alteration of present or past practices wherein the public

Interest may be involved The Secretary requests may be made by you directed to him.

I am Sir
very respectfully
your: mo: obd Ser
[H. Simmons?]

Capt Lewis Howard.

P. Hanks to John Smith

Sir Michilimackinac 24th June 1809

I have received yours of the 15th of March enclosing an Act of Congress regulating the Treasury, war and Navy departments-- I am Sir Very Respectfully
Your Obt Servt

John Smith Esqr
Acting Secy of war.—

P. Hanks Lieut
& Asst M. Agent

War Department Order

Comg Officer Chikago
131.

Sir War Deparrment 5 July 09

Whenever Mr Jouett the Indian Agent, shall require any Black Smith or armoury Work, for the Indians, you will please to direct the Artificers under your Command to execute it accordingly for which Mr Jouett is to pay each artificer while employed ten cents & one Gill of whiskey per Day. He is also to furnish the necessary Iron & Steel for the Indian work,

I am &c

War Department Order

War Department, July 17th, 1809.

His Excellency Gov. Hull.

Sir,

Two thousand one hundred and seventy-five dollars have been placed in the hands of Colonel Anthony Lamb, Military Agent at Albany, and which he has been directed to forward to you as follows, viz:

$100, in cents, if attainable.
900 in Silver money, and
1175 in small Bank Notes of Albany or New York.

$2175.

These Monies are intended to complete the payments under the Treaty of Fort Industry for the present year; and when received your Excellency will please to distribute them accordingly.

I am, very respectfully, &c.—

Hoffman to Secretary of War

Michilimackinac,
July 20th 1809.

Sir,

Mr Julian Dubuque at the request of the late John Campbell Esq of Laprairie du Chien acted as Indian Agent there—He furnished and gave to the Indians the goods &c mentioned in the enclosed account—For which he demands payment—The goods forwarded by Government for the Indians in that quarter were last summer

in consequence of the death of Mr Campbell detained and stored at Michilimackinac by Capt Howard, the commanding officer there. Should the account of Mr Dubuque pass in its present shape it will suit him to receive the amount of it from either the pay master at the fort near river Dumoin a branch of the Mississippi or from the pay master at Detroit—It will oblige a very respectable man, much attached to the interests of the U. States, and who has great influence with the Mississippi Indians, to have his account speedily liquidated & paid—Should it be necessary for Mr Dubuque to have his account supported by affidavits or rendered in a different form from that in which it is now presented, by informing Samuel Abbott, Esq, of this place, I presume your instructions on that head will be fulfilled.

With the highest respect, Sir,

Your Obt St,

GEO. HOFFMAN.

The Hon.
The Secretary of War,
of the United States,
Washington City

ACCOUNT OF THE UNITED STATES WITH JULIEN DUBUQUE

[Enclosure in Hoffman to Secretary of War]

The United States Dr
To Julien Dubuque——
For Sundries furnished the Indians at the Prairie du Chien——

	Dollars	Cents
Sundries given to an Indian sent by the Chief		

of the Renards with a letter from the Secretary of War addressed to the Deceased John Campbell . . . . . 48.

12 " Tobacco, 6" Powder and 8 Loaves Bread and 1 Keg Rum to the Renards of the Grand Maguagintais . . . . . 37.

To the Band of the Petite Maguagintais for Tobacco, Powder & Provisions . . 36.

To the Band of the River Au D'inste . . 27.

To the Puants of the Rock River for Tobacco, Powder, Rum & Provisions . . . 35.

To the Band de Chenin for Powder, Tobacco & Provisions . . . . . 45.

To the Band of Puants at the Grande Masguatine for Tobacco & Provision . . 25.

To the Sawkis in Lead, Tobacco & Provisions 22.

To several Bands at different times . . 19.

To Indians of diferent Nations who from time to time visit this place . . . . 13.

$307.

The foregoing account contains a just & true Statement of the amount of different Articles furnished by me to the different Nations at this place during the time I was in the service of the United States as Agent for the Indians in the place of the Deceased John Campbell, commencing the 22d of September & ending the 20th November 1808.

Prairie du Chien 14th June 1809.——

J Dubuque

DYSON TO [SECRETARY OF WAR?]

Fort Detroit August 4th 1809

Sir

The enclosed abstract for extra labour was left with me previous to the departure of Col Burbeck. As the circumstance occured prior to the arrival of Col Kingsbury—he does not feel Authorized to instruct the assistant M Agent to pay it. I therefore take the liberty to submit it, for your consideration—

I have the honor to be
Sir
Very Respectfully
Your obedt Servt
SAML T. DYSON
Capt R. Artillerests

KINGSBURY TO SECRETARY OF WAR

Fort Detroit,
1st September, 1809—

Sir,

I received on the Evening of the 30th Ultimo a letter from James May of this Town, requireing a Suspension of the building of the public Store house, in part on the lot once owned by him, but long since legally relinquished to the Government for a valuable consideration, and now within the Military reservation as laid by Governor Hull and Colonel Burbeck. A Copy of which together with a Copy of the Original Conveyance and an Extract from Colonel Burbecks instructions for my government

at this Post you will receive herewith. The first Story of the building is nearly Completed, the Materials principally purchased, and on the ground, and a Sufficient number of workmen employed to complete it this season. Under these circumstances, I do not feel myself authorized to grant the Suspension required; nor shall I in any wise depart from the Arrangements of Colonel Burbeck, unless I have the honor to receive your instructions to that Effect—

I have the honor to remain,
With great respect,
and due Submission,
your most Obdt Servt—
Jacob Kingsbury Colonel
1st Regt Infantry—

Secretary of War

James May to Kingsbury and Baker

[Enclosure in Kingsbury to Secretary of War, Sept. 1.]

Detroit August 29—1809

Gentlemen,

The Absence of Governor Hull from the Seat of Government authorises me to inform you, that a Part of the Premises on which the public Store House is now building, under your direction, is my private Property and never was relinquished by me to the Government, but on Conditions to be performed by the Executive; those conditions not having been complied with on his part, induces me to request that you will not cause any further Expences to be incurred, or Buildings to be carried on,

untill his Return, otherwise I shall consider you as Trespassers, and shall proceed to protest against the same

I am respectfully
Gentlemen
your most Obdt Servt
(Signed) James May

To Colonel Kingsbury
Commanding the Garrison
of Detroit, and to Lieut.
D. Baker, Military Agent
for the same

Colonel Burbeck's Instructions to Kingsbury

[Enclosure in Kingsbury to Secretary of War, Sept. 1.]

Extract from Colonel Burbecks Instructions to Colo Kingsbury Fort Detroit June 24 1809

"I have conceived it my duty to give you every Information respecting the Contracts I have made and their Objects.—I have contracted for Stone, Lime & Bricks to build a Store House, one hundred Feet long & thirty Feet wide, the Site I have marked out.—Lieuts Baker and Anderson are fully possessed of all my Arrangements in the further Prosecution, Improvements and Repairs of the public Works at this Post.—The former will superintend the Building of the Store, Repairs of the Wharf, and all other Business belonging to the Quarter Masters or Military Agents Department &c &c "

I certify that the above is a true Extract from the Original now in my possession

Jacob Kingsbury Colonel
1st Regt Infantry—

Original Conveyance of Land by James May

[Enclosure in Kingsbury to Secretary of War, Sept. 1.]

THIS INDENTURE made at Detroit the twenty third day of December in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred, between the Revd Jean Batiste Marchand of the parish of L'Assomption in the province of Upper Canada, of the one part: and James May, of Detroit aforesaid, Esquire, of the other part, Witnesseth that the said Jean Batiste Marchand, (by virtue of a power of attorney of Mrs Suzan Baby, widow of the late Duperon Baby Esqr duly executed at Quebec in the province of Lower Canada the twenty third day of May last, and registered in this County of Wayne in the book No. 1. pages 428 & 429.) for and in consideration of the sum of seven hundred pounds New York Currency, equal in value to one thousand seven hundred and fifty dollars, lawful money of the United States, to him the said Jean Batiste Marchand in hand well & truly paid by the said James May at & before the sealing & delivery of these presents, the receipt whereof of the said Jean Batiste Marchand hereby acknowledges, and there of doth exonerate, acquit, and discharge the said James May, his heirs, and assigns forever, Hath granted, bargained, sold, aliened, conveyed, and confirmed, and by these presents doth grant, bargain, sell, alien, convey, and confirm unto the said James may, his heirs, and assigns all that messuage & tenement situate, lying, and being in the town of Detroit aforesaid together with the dwelling house,

and all other the buildings there on erected; the said premisses containing seventy five feet three inches, in front & rear, and one hundred and thirty feet in depth, be the by the same more or less, (french measure) bounded on the north east by the lot of Angus Mackintosh, and on the south west by a lot now in possession of the Commanding officer of the garrison; with all & singular the appurtenances what soever to the said messuage, tenement & premisses belonging or in any wise appertaining, and the reversion & reversions, remainder & remainders, rents, issues, and profits of the said premisses, and every part & parcell thereof and all the estate, right, title, interest, claim, and demands whatsoever of the said widow Baby, of, in, and to the said messuage, tenement, and premisses, and every part thereof; To have & To hold the said messuage, tenement, & premisses and all and every part and parcell thereof, with the appurtenances unto the said James May, his heirs, and assigns for ever; . And the said Jean Batiste Marchand, (in his aforesaid capacity) for himself, his executors, administrators, and assigns, the said messuage, tenement & premisses, and every part & parcell thereof, against himself (in his aforesaid capacity) his executors & administrators, and against all & every other person, and persons, to the said James May, his heirs, and assigns, shall & will warrant, and forever defend by these presents.

In Witness whereof the said Jean Batiste Marchand (in his aforesaid capacity) hath hereunto these presents set his hand and affixed his seal at Detroit, the day,

month, and year first above written.

Jean Baptiste Marchand L.S.

Signed sealed, & delivered [Procu?]de Md Baby
in the presence of
William Hands
Peter Audrain

Wayne County ss

personally appeared before me the undersigned one of the Justices assigned to keep the peace within and for the said County of Wayne, the above Jean Batiste Marchand, and acknowledged the above instrument of writing to be his act & deed for the purposes therein contained, and that as such it may be recorded; In testimony whereof I have hereunto subscribed my name, at Detroit this thirtyeth day of January 1801.

Joseph Voyer

Know all men by these presents, that I James May of the City & District of Detroit within the Territory of Michigan, in consideration of an equal quantity of ground received elsewhere, have remised, released and forever quit claim to the Governor and Judges of Michigan, their successors and assigns forever, of one certain parcel of ground lying and being in the City of Detroit and bounded as follows, as appears by the annexed indenture between the Revd Jean Baptiste Marchand and myself executed at Detroit the twenty third day of December, one thousand eight hundred, Viz on the north east by the lot of Angus Mackintosh, and on the south west by a lot then in possession of the Commanding officer of the Garrison, and containing in front and rear seventy five feet three inches, and in depth one hundred and thirty feet french measure be the same more or less.

To have and to hold the same to the said Governor and Judges, their successors and assigns forever.
In witness whereof I the said James May have hereunto set my hand and seal, in presence of the subscribing witnesses at the City of Detroit this second day of May one thousand eight hundred and eight.
Signed and sealed in
presence of JAMES MAY L. S.
Jno Burnett
Jos Watson
Secretary to the Governor
and Judges

CITY OF DETROIT Territory of Michigan / District of Detroit } To wit:

Be it remembered that on the second day of May Anno Domini one thousand eight hundred and eight, James May Esquire of the District aforesaid did acknowledge the within instrument of writing to be his act and deed for the purposes therein contained, and consented that as such it might be recorded.

Given under my hand and seal of office the day and year above written.

L. S. JOS WATSON
Notary Public D.D.

Office

of the Governor and Judges of Michigan, acting as Commissioners under an act of Congress entitled "An act to provide for the adjustment of titles of land in the town of Detroit and Territory of Michigan, and for other purposes" approved on the 21st day of April 1806.

This is to certify that the foregoing instruments have

been copied ver batim from the originals on file in this office.

Given under my hand at the City of
Detroit, this 31st day of August 1809.

Jos: Watson
Secretary

Kingsbury to Secretary of War

Fort Detroit,
Michigan Territory,
8th September, 1809—

Sir,

I wrote you on the first instant and enclosed a Copy of a letter from James May requesting a Suspension of the building of the public Store house, with a Copy of the Original Conveyance from him to government for the land on which part of the Store Stands, I now enclose you a Copy of a protest Signed by the Notary public; The Suspension required I do not feel myself Justifiable in granting, Consequently shall use my utmost exertions to have the Store house Completed without one ments unnecessary delay, unless I should receive Orders from you on the Subject—

With great respect,
and due Submission,
I have the honor to remain,
your most Obedt Servt—
Jacob Kingsbury Colonel
1st Regt Infantry—

Secretary of war—

Protest of James May

[Enclosure in Kingsbury to Secretary of War, Sept. 8.]

Territory of Michigan Notary Public's Office
City of Detroit this 6th day of September 1809

Personally came and appeared before me Joesph Watson a Notary Public in and for the District of Detroit and Territory aforesaid, James May Esqr of the aforesaid City, who says "that at the time he relinquished to the Governor and Judges of Michigan acting as Commissioners under an Act of Congress approved on the 21st April 1806, entitled "An Act to provide for the Adjustment of Titles of Land in the Town of Detroit and Territory of Michigan and for other Purposes" a certain Lot of Ground adjoining to the Lot of Angus Mackintosh in the old Town, the said Governor and Judges did deed to him Lots 24, 25, 26, 27 & 28 in Section numbered two in the new Town of Detroit, and as an Inducement to the Exchange, pointed out to him, the Advantages of his new Situation, having the main Street running N. 60.° E in front, and in rear a Street of 160 feet in width running North, that this last mentioned Street continues to be shut up by the Military, and that the daily Improvements on the Military Reserve in which this Street has been included bespeak that it is not to be opened, that the Public have taken Possession of his old Ground and commenced building a public Store; and that on the 29th day of August last he did notify in writing (delivered by his Daughter Nancy) Colo Jacob Kingsbury Commanding Officer of the Garrison of Detroit, and Lieutenant Daniel Baker assistant Military Agent at De-

troit, of these Circumstances and requested them not to cause any further expences to be incurred or Buildings to be carried on, untill the Return of his Excellency Governor Hull; but that still the Building of this Store is continued, therefore at the request of the aforesaid James May, and in order to secure to him those rights, advantages and benefits which he is in Justice and Equity entitled to as a remuneration to him for the Injury sustained by past circumstances, I Joseph Watson Notary Public as aforesaid for and in the Name of James May Esqr do by these presents solemnly protest against the continuing the building of the Store aforesaid by Colo Jacob Kingsbury or Lieutenant Daniel Baker and all others therein concern'd, hereby requiring them anew to desist from any further proceedings towards the building of said Store: And against the Commissioners aforementioned, for all damages, Injuries and Disadvantages sustained or to be sustained by and owing to the present Proceedings of the Military Department

In testimony of all which the said James May has to this Instrument set his Hand, as also the aforesaid Notary his Hand and Seal of Office, the day & Year above written

(Signed) James May
(Signed) Jos. Watson

(Seal) N P. D D

Kingsbury to Secretary of War

Fort Detroit,
Michigan Territory,
16th Septr, 1809—

Sir,

Captain Rhea has sollicited me to make application to

you for a furlough, to go to New Jersey on business, he has not had a furlough since he joined the Army, Consequently his pretension to an indulgence of that kind, is equal perhaps to any other officer—

I have the honor to remain,
With great respect,
and due Submission,
your most Obdt Servt—
JACOB KINGSBURY Colonel
1st Regt Infantry—

Secretary of War —

CAPT. RHEA'S REQUEST FOR FURLOUGH

[Enclosure in Kingsbury to Secretary of War, Sept. 16.]

Detroit Septr 15th 1809—

Sir

As I have not had a furlough since I have been in the Army, I take the liberty to solicit through you to apply to the Honbe Secretary at War to obtain one to go to New Jersey on business, if I should be so fortunate to obtain a furlough and it should not arrive in time to go this season, I should be happy to have it some other time when it may be thought convenient—

I have the honor
to be with much respect
Sir your obt Servt
J. RHEA Capt
1st Regt Infty

Colo Jacob Kingsbury

Speech of Indian Chiefs to Governor Hull

The Speach of the Principle Cheifs and Warriors of the Wyandots delivered on the 30th day of September 1809

To His Excellency Governor Hull

Father, Listen to your Children the Wiandots, delivered by their Cheifs and warriors, in which they let you know these Sentiments

Father, Listen, for we speak to you now to let you know the sentiments of our minds,—We thought the land we resided upon was our own; formerly, our Old Cheifs who are now dead and gone, make a great promise to the Great Spirit above, that they never would move from the land, we their Children, now live upon and occupy.

Father, listen, you informed us that the land we occupy belongs to you; at the treaty of Greenville, made with our father General Wayne, he promised to us the land on which we live; And for that reason, we never will consent to give up talking upon this subject

Father, listen, you will remember that some of Our principle Cheifs went last fall to Visit our Great father, the President of the United States; Our cheifs were very sorry that they could not git an oppertunity to talk with Our Great father, the President of the United States personally.

Father, Listen, when you arrived at this place amonghts your Children, you allways give your children good advice to cultivate the land. Your children of the Wiandot tribe of Indians, have followed your advise, to their great

benifit and Satisfaction,—Father we were astonished when you told us there was a small tract of land at Browns Town and Maguawgo, for our use for fifty Years. And a vacancy in the middle between the two Villages Father, Listen to what your Children the Wiandots Say, this small tract of land is intirely too small for us, what will become of our children that are growing up.

Father, listen, You have cut off from us the best part of our land. Your children, the Principle cheifs, the old warriors, Head Warriors, with some of Our Sensible young men, of the Wiandot Nation, request you to grant them the following favour: That the Boundary of Our lands Should commence at a small run about half a mile from Walk-in-the-waters dwelling House, on the North east side; to run from thence along the Detroit river untill it crosses the river Huron for one mile, that is the river Huron beyond Brown's Town, to the south west; thence to extend back to the extent of the United States purchase, or a line established by the Treaty of Detroit, Beyond which the rocky river, we will forever abandon further Claims. Father you know there is a bed of land between the two Villages, the Cheifs of the Wiandots & sensible young men of Our nation, wish you to let them have that bed of land, which lies between the two villages — —Father, the reason why your children like this bed of land so well, they have made valuable Improvements thereon, which have cost them both labor and expences; And what is still more sensible to our feelings we love the land that covers the bones of our fathers.

Father, listen, those lands are our sole dependence for cultivation and Hunting

Father listen again you Inform us concerning our land

that we are only to enjoy them for fifty years Your Children are very uneasy at this Information they say let us enjoy and have our land forever

Father listen your children say let your children the Wiandots have their land for One Hundred years. The reason why we say one Hundred years is this, If your Children the principle Old Cheifs of of the Wiandot Tribe of Indians live so long in peace and quietness, when that day comes at the end of one Hundred years—father we will again talk on the Same subject

Father Listen It supprises us your Children that Our Great Father the President of the United States Should take as much upon himself as the Great Spirit above; As he wants all the land on this Island—Father we think he takes the word out of the mouth of the Great Spirit he does not consider that he is master, Father he does not think of the Great Spirit above that he is omnipotent and master of us all; and every thing in this world

Father listen to the request of all your Wiandot Children—Grant us we suplicate you our land in the quantity we have requested in this Speach then father we will thank the voice of the great Spirit above, and thank our father the President of the United States in granting this

Father listen you requested your children last Spring to take into consideration this subject, concerning our land. we have complyed with your request and now give this answer

Father listen we Hope you will not think that it is for want of disrespect to you that we make known our Sentiments on paper, by our friend Jacob Visger, father as you have repeatedly promised your Children that you

would respect them we will never forgit your paternal care of us if you will Assist us at this present time, in forwarding these Our wishes and Sentiments to our father the President of the United States

Show Han wit or Black Cheif
Mae'ra or walk in the water
Sin dae we no
Te yuck quant
Han nac Saw or Split log
Ha Yane ma dae or Isedore
Yuck Sha-waw no—
None Yae Ta or Sky light
Ta Han none Ka

[Endorsed]
Speech of the Principal chiefs
and Warriors of the Wyandot
nation of Indians, of the 30th
of Septr 1809. to Govr Hull

28th Feby. 1812.
Refd to the Comee on Public Lands.

HOWARD TO EUSTIS

Michillimackinac
Octr 1st 1809

Sir

In the month of August 1808 there arrived at this Post in U. S. Brig Adams Sundry Packages of Indian

Goods (Foxes Annuities &c. &c.) addressed to the care of the Commanding Officer of the Post, to be held subject to the Order of John Campbell Esqr Indian Agent at Prairie du Chien—Previous to the Arrival of those Goods Mr Campbell had fallen in a Duel and the Goods of course remained in my Hands, which was reported to General Dearborn; Since which I have heard nothing on the Subject except a letter received this summer from a Mr Boilvin at Prairie Du Chien, informing me that he was appointed to succeed the late Mr Campbell & expressing a wish that I would forward the Goods without however, pointing out the mode in which it was to be done or the expence defrayed. I did not of course feel myself Justified in incurring so considerable an expence (say near half the value of the Property) without some instruction I should have done myself the Honor to have written you on this subject long since had it not been Generally understood here that Mr Varnum the Factor, was also the Indian Agent for the Post; and no doubt was entertained by myself, or the Officers under my Command but that he would have orders to receive the Goods and forward them, nor were we undeceived in this expectation untill the Arrival of Mr. V. on the 10th of Septr when it was too late to attempt doing any thing in the Business; I shall now await such orders as you may please to give on the subject

I am Sir very respectfully your Most Obedt Servant,

Lewis Howard,
Capt Artilly Commg

Honble Wm Eustis
Secretary of War

Howard to Eustis

Sir Michillimackanac Nov. 6th 1809

I have the Honor to enclose a receipt for McCombs Martial omitted by mistake in my last—

I will take the liberty of mentioning to you that we are in want of a Flag, I will further observe that as the Post is much frequented in the Summer by Foreigners &c &c it would be desirable to have one of the best Quality as to Size &c

I am Sir very respectfully
Your Obedt Servant
Lewis Howard
Captain Artillerist

Honbl Wm Eustis
Secretary of War

Hull to Eustis

Sir Detroit 23d January 1810

I have received your letter of the 2d of January, inclosing the speech of *Leather-lips* and the Bowl, two Wyandot Chiefs residing at lower Sandusky, to the President—

Their statement is correct, that by an agreement and at the request of the Chiefs of that nation, the Annuities have been delivered one year to them who reside at upper and lower Sandusky and the next year to them residing at Brownstown and Maguago, and the last year the whole were delivered to them residing at the latter places.—

I believe it would be more convenient, and I know of

no objection to sending the annuities of that nation directly to Sandusky and to the care of Mr Tupper the U. S. Factor to be delivered—you will however observe by the treaty of Fort Industry, that the Delewares, Munsees, and such of the Shawanese and Senecas, as reside with the Wyandots, are entitled to a share with the Wyandots, of the annuity due under that Treaty, now the nations are to agree on the proportions which each shall receive, and the agreement is to be approved by the President.—The late President authorized me to act for him in this case, and they have agreed that the division, shall be made according to the numbers of the respective Nations. ——I state this as it will be necessary for Mr Tupper to attend to this provision of the Treaty, and it may be necessary for him to approve of the agreement of the Nations in behalf of the President.

I am very respectfully

Honble W. Eustis
Secretary of War—

your most obedt servt
William Hull

Hull to Eustis

Honble W. Eustis,
Secretary of War.

Detroit 25th January 1810.

Sir,

I have received your letter of the first of January—The expences of the last year have been increased, in consequence of the promise made to the Chiefs of the different Nations that they should be furnished with domestic animals, in consequence of the grant of land, by the Treaty of Brownstown, by the late President, and

my visit to the Northward—I shall endeavor so to arrange the business, that four thousand Dollars will defray the whole expense of the current year.—It is true, that a large quantity of provisions was issued to the Indians in the month of October last—This was during the time, they received the principal part of their annuities—Frequently seven or eight hundred were here at a time—Consider sir, the annuities of six or seven of the most numerous nations are delivered here—Each Chief brings his train, and these are followed by their women and children, altho I have done everything in my power to prevent it—While here, they must either starve or plunder the inhabitants—Indeed sir, in the present state of things with England, I consider it good policy not to refuse them bread—If however the Government is of a different opinion I must tell the Indians that their American Father has no bread for them, and they must starve, or go to their British Father—

The fact is I do not give them half the provisions, which I think, on sound principles of policy, it would be proper, considering the events which probably await our country—For the last two or three months none of any consequence have been issued—If you have a war with England they will be encited to hostility, and we can do nothing which will attach them more to us, than *feeding* them when *hungry*—

I however, shall bow with all respect to the opinion of the government, and shall not exercise my discretion against *that opinion* when it is so fully *expressed* to me—

I am very respectfully your
most Obedt Servt
William Hull

Hull to Eustis

Detroit 8th March 1810

Honble Wm Eustis
Secretary of War—
Sir—

The Packet accompanying this contains my account of the annuities paid to the several Nations of Indians for the year 1809, with a letter to the accountant of the war department.

I am very respectfully
William Hull

Kingsbury to Secretary of War

Fort Detroit,
Michigan Territory,
9th March 1810—

Sir,

Enclosed is an Abstract of pay, for Extra labor performed at this post, in the year 1809; which I have to request the assistant Military agent may be authorized to discharge—

I have the honor to remain,
With great respect,
and due Submission,
your most Obdt Servt—
Jacob Kingsbury Colonel
1st Regt Infantry—

Secretary of War—

Hull to Eustis

Sir Detroit 20th April 1810—

My accounts for the last year in the Indian department have been prepared, excepting the settlement of Mr Richards, which has been the reason of their being detained—Mr Richard called on me yesterday, and informed me that in consequence of the verbal assurances of the late President, and some of the other members of the government, he had incured expences to a greater amount than four hundred dollars, and he could not in justice to himself, settle the account on the principle contained in your letter.—I shall therefore close my accounts and forward them, and charge the U. S. with the $400 I have advanced to him, with his receipt as a voucher, and leave it to the proper department to settle the account.—

In consequence of your letter I have endeavoured to make an arrangement to diminish the expences in the Indian Department—For several months past I have ordered very little provision.—On the first of April I dismissed the Blacksmith, Armourer, Striker and Carpenter at Detroit.—I have likewise dismissed the Striker at Saganau—By the treaty of Detroit the Indians are entitled to a Blacksmith at Saganau and the foot of the Rapids of the Miami—They are retained—I have likewise dismissed the superintendant of the farming business—The work absolutely necessary for the Indians here will be done by the piece, and charged at a reasonably price, and I shall lease the shops and tools to the persons I employ.—I hope the object will be answered at

a less expense than heretofore—I have consulted with the commanding officer and find the work at present cannot be conveniently done in the Garrison—They have not suitable workmen—Besides it would be attended with many inconveniences—Indians and Soldiers do not agree —When they are intoxicated they press on Centinels, and the Centinels have no discretion, and must do their duty. Several instances of Indians being wounded in this way have happened.—I shall continue the system, I have now adopted, unless you disapprove of it, in which case you will please to give me early notice.—The usual quantity of Iron, steel, files, plough Irons, Tobacco, Madison, Medals, Wampum, pipes, and stationary will be necessary, and expected by the Indians—As long as the differences remain unsettled with England, and you have so small a force on this frontier, sound policy, in my opinion, requires attention to our red Brethren—They are numerous, and have it in their power, to distress the unprotected settlements, in a manner, that would be extremely injurious.——

I am very respectfully

Honble W Eustis
Secretary of War.

your most Obedt Sert
William Hull

Hull to Eustis

Honble Wm Eustis
Secretary of War

Detroit 25th May 1810

Sir

Although Harris H Hickman, the last year had devoted much of his time to the Indian department, as an assis-

tant to me, yet in consequence of your directions I have not made him any compensation to be charged to the public—As I think it just under all the circumstances, that he should be compensated, I hope you will give me directions as will authorize me to pay him a reasonable consideration for his services—He is now appointed the Collector at the Post of Michilimackinac, and has gone there with his family to reside—By the arrangement, made between the Chippewa & Ottawa Chiefs, both at that place and this, you will perceive, by the communications, I have made to you, that it is agreed and understood, that a part of the annuities to those Nations will be delivered at Michilimackinac—It will therefore be necessary for me to make a voyage there myself, or employ some person to perform the service—My duties as Governor will not admit of going every year, and I could not ask any person there to perform this service without a compensation—Indeed it would be highly improper to do it, as the person would not consider himself in that case under the proper responsibility—

As therefore your Predecessor actually appointed an Assistant at that place, and as a very strong additional reason now exists, (viz) the distribution of a part of the annuities to two of the principal Nations, I cannot but hope, you will think it expedient to order the appointment—In that case, I recommend to you, Mr Hickman as a character every way suitable to the situation———

I shall detain the portion of annuities, designed for that post, until I hear from you unless I should receive previously, contrary directions from you.

I am very respectfully

William Hull

Hull to Eustis

Honble Wm Eustis Detroit 9th June 1810.
Secretary of the department of War—
Sir—

I have received your letter of the 14th of May... I shall draw on the department of war, for the two thousand Dollars, due the present year, to the Chipewa, Ottawa, and Pottawattamie Nations, under the treaty of Detroit— — — — —

You observed to me in a former letter, that not more than four thousand Dollars would be appropriated, the present year, for the payment of the Interpreters, Mechanics, farmers, and indeed all the expenses of the Indian department—I have endeavoured so to arrange the business, as that the expense shall not exceed that sum—Near half the year has now expired, and I am daily called on for payment—In my former letters, I have requested, that the money for that purpose, should be deposited at Albany—I have not ventured to draw my bills on the military agent, as I have not been informed that any money has been deposited there the present year, subject to my drafts— I hope it will be done immediately, and that I may have information—It would be much more agreeable to me to give certificates, of the necessary services rendered here in the Indian department, and let the persons themselves apply to the proper department of the government for payment—I never have charged any per Centum, for making the payments, tho' attended with much trouble, and some hazard

I am very respectfully, your most obedt Servt
William Hull.

War Department Order

428.0
His Excellcy
Wm Hull.
438.
180

Sir, War Department, Augt 20th 1810.—
I am instructed by the Secretary of War to acknowledge the receipt of your Letters of the 12th, 20th & 27th ulto—& to state to your Excellency that, in consequence of measures which have been adopted by Governor Harrison and of the reinforcement sent to him & placed at his disposal, with others in supporting distance, it is presumed the Indians will be deterred from acts of Hostility; that a Reinforcement at or near Detroit, which has been in contemplation and would have been in a train of execution but for the uncertain state of the Military Establishment in consequence of the measures of the House of Representatives, is not lost sight of.—
I am, &c &c. &c./signed./Jn. Smith, C.C.—

Col. Jacob Kingsbury to William Eustis

Fort Detroit,
Michigan Territory,
28th Sept, 1810—

Sir,

Herewith enclosed is a letter from Captain Howard the Commanding Officer of Michilimackinac addressed to you on the Subject of a certain Tract, or Tracts of Land

claimed by Mr Michael Dousman, the greater part of which I am informed by Captain Howard, has always been considered as a Military reserve, for fire wood for the use of the garrison, at that post, and which should Dousmans claim be granted, will materially injure the public, as it will take the best of the woodland on the Island; Colonel Burbeck is perfectly acquainted with the situation of what has always been considered the public reservation, and can give you the necessary Information respecting it—I have the honor to remain,

With great respect, your most Obdt Servt
Jacob Kingsbury Colonel
1st Regt Infantry—

Honorable, William Eustis—

Suspension of Survey

[Enclosure in Kigsbury to Eustis, Sept. 28]

Michillimackinac Sept 4th
1810

Sir

Mr Michael Dousman a Citizen of this place having attempted to make a survey of Land which I consider as encroaching very essentially on the Public Military reserve, I have been under the Necessity of requiring that the said survey be suspended untill I should be duly Authorised by yourself, or some other of my superiors to permit the same, Colonel Burbeck who first took possession of this Post on the part of our Government is well acquainted I doubt not, with the situation of this Woodland, and the Great Injury to which the U. S. would

be subject should they Agree to relinquish it to him, I have the Honor to refer you—in addition to which, I enclose a copy of a statement made by me to the commissioners of the Land Board at Detroit which will give you the chief information at this time within my Knowledge. I can only add, that if the Government should agree to relinquish this Woodland it must in the course of two or three years subject them to very Heavy as well as unnecessary expence for it is my belief; that the intention (from the private manner in which Mr Dousman has transacted this Business) was, to get a survey, a final certificate & Deed, & then to sell the wood to the U. S. or let them go some where else for it, off the Island, of course at great cost & inconvenience. I trust however; that he will find himself disappointed; when this Business is once proprly explained—I have the

Honor to be with great
respect your Most Obedt Servt

Lewis Howard
Capt Artillery

Honble Wm Eustis
Secretary of War—

Suspension of Survey

[Enclosure in Kingsbury to Eustis, Sept. 28]

Messrs Reuben Attwater, James Abbott, and Peter Audrian, Esquires, Commissioners of the Land Board for the Territory of Michigan

Gentlemen—

Having been under the necessity of desiring Mr Greely to Suspend the completing of a Survey about to be made

by him, in favor of Mr M Dousman, Ostensibly under Authority of a certificate from your respectable Board; I think it no less due to you, than myself to lay before you the following Statement of Facts—In the first place, I have received positive orders to Keep possession of all Public Lands considered as a Military reserve, or in any way attached to the Garrison under my orders—In the 2d the Lines as they were about to be run, would have included much the most Valuable part of the woodland within the Military reserve, laid off as Such when the Americans first took possession of the Island & Post, & held in the Same way from that time to the present, and further, the lines as Mr Dousman would have them, cuts off all communication with the little wood he is willing to allow us, at the further extremity of the Island, except by passing through his land, going by water, or over Hills nearly inaccessible to a Saddle Horse, much more a loaded Team. In the third case, I will not undertake to assert, that the lines about to be run were actually at Variance with the Bounds laid down in your certificate (although that is the General Opinion here, & *certainly is mine*) but this much I will assert, that if Mr Dousman had been even Suspected of laying a claim to this land Such information would have been given to your respectable Board as would have I presume prevented any further proceedings but he laid his claim without opposition & received the certificate of course at the Same time that he must Know that the Survey unless made in a "Secret" Manner would never be permitted by the Person Acting for the Government at this place—I will take the liberty of asking whether it can seem reasonable to Mr Dousman or any other Person, that the Govern-

ment, *or their Agents* (in which Situation I have the Honor to allude to you Gentlemen) could, had they been correctly informed as to the *Situation of this claim,* aggree to the Sale of a Valuable Tract of Woodland which has been preserved as a reserve in time of Necessity, within less than two Miles of an important Garrison for the Trifling Sum of $2 pr acre, when this Same purchaser on getting possession would very likely ask $20 pr Acre for the wood as it now Stands on the Ground— I will also add that Mr D by going further on the other Side of the Island may get his 200 Acres, or what would be called a pretty Good Farm, particularly Should he Agree to take in all the land not claimed by others on that Side a part of which I find he has very good crops of wheat &c. &c. Growing on at this time, & although within his enclosures & cultivated by him it is not in this Survey—I regret Gentlemen that I have been under the Necessity of Troubling you with this Statement (to which many more Facts might be added) I trust However that it may assist in a Small degree to prevent an essential encroachment on the Public rights; be that as it may, I shall have the Satisfaction to Know that as far as my agency has gone, I have Executed my orders, & the Duty that my Government had a right to expect

I have the Honor to be
With Great respect, Your
very Obed Servant
Lewis Howard
Captain Artillery

Michillimackinac
Sept 4—1810

P. S. In speaking of the military reserve on this Island,

I do not allude to the line as run by Mr Greely (which takes in much more of the Citizens side as it is usually call'd) but to the old Reserve pretty well Known to Mr Dousman I presume; as well as most others who have been long in this place.

L H—

See an additional note on next Page

Thinking it possible that it might be considered by the Land Board that Mr Dousman claim was admitted as far as the Survey had gone, I will observe, that he had passed nearly his whole intended line on one side, through the reservation before the Survey was Suspended—also that the Ground now cleared by him, is (to say no more of it) as far as he could go on the Old Military reserve, and if we appeal to Mr Greelys division, he shews the Farm nearly if not the whole on the Military side & he certainly run the line correctly aggreeable to the original Intention & Instructions as far as I can Judge of it—

L Howard

Kingsbury to Eustis

Fort Detroit,
30th November, 1810—

Honorable William Eustis,
Secretary of War—
Sir,

I take the liberty of enclosing Lt Brevoorts letter to me, relative to the present Situation of the Snow Adams, the only public Vessell within my Command, and to Observe that it appears she cannot in safety Sail another

Season without undergoing a thorough repair; and that in Consequence of the information contained in the above mentioned letter, I shall immediately detach a party of men to cut the necessary Timber for that purpose; I shall however forbear incuring any great Expence until I have the honor to receive your Instructions upon this Subject; The repair should you think proper to Authorise it, I believe can be made in time for the Vessell to meet the public good at Buffaloe, as early next Season as usual—

The British Government, are building a large Vessell at Malden, 18 miles below this, Calculated to mount 18 guns, which is now ready to launch—

I have the honor to remain,
very Respectfully,
your most Obdt Servt—
Jacob Kingsbury Colonel
1st Regt Infantry

Condition of the Brig Adams

[Enclosure in Kingsbury to Eustis, Nov. 30]

Detroit 29th Novr 1810—

Jacob Kingsbury Esqr
Colonel Commanding the 1st Regt of Infantry—
and the District of the Lakes—

Sir,

The United States Snow Adams (the oldest Vessel on the Lakes) During the Summer has been very leaky, the plank & Timber put in her last being just from the Stump, is very rotten, & it is necessary for her to be hauled up,

& undergo a thorough repair it being much cheaper than building a New Vessel of half her burthen. It will be impossible to ascertain what will be wanting, until She is opened—which cannot be done with propriety until hauled up, as it will naturally weaken her, She will also want some light Sails, with a complete set of standing, & some running rigging. I should deem it adviseable to make every preparation for her, (i. e.) getting out a sufficient quantity of timber, & giving it an opportunity to season until the approbation of the Honourable Secretary at War, is known. The Camden a British Vessel of 16 guns was launched, five years after the Adams was put in the Stocks, has undergone a thorough repair two years ago—is now condemned, & a Vessel of 18 Guns ready to launch

War Department Order

Sir, War Department,
Decr 10 1810

Capt L. Howard 'Mackinac

Your letters of the 4th Septr & 1st of October, relative to the Military reservation at Michillimackinac & Mr Dousmans interference with the same have been received. The enclosed Copy of the letter of the Secretary of the Treasury to the Commissioners of the land board, in answer to their communication on the subject, will show that no individual claim can be successfully opposed to the public right. You will be pleased therefore to have the reser-

vation resurveyed upon your direction, agreeably to the instructions which you have heretofore received from Colo Burbeck and to the ideas contained in his letter addressed to this Department under date of the 18t inst a copy of which is herewith transmitted.

Four Copies of the Survey should be made out; one of which you will transmit to the Secretary of the Treasury; one to this Department; one to the Commissioners of the Land board; the other to be retained in the Garrison.

respectfully &c.

KINGSBURY TO EUSTIS

Fort Detroit,
Michigan Territory,
4th January 1811—

Sir,

Herewith enclosed are returns of Clothing necessary for the Companies at this post the ensueing Year; Conformably to an Order, (dated 1st December 1807), from the War Department—

I have the honor to remain
Respectfully,
Your most Obedt Servt—
JACOB KINGSBURY Colonel
1st Regt Infantry—

Honorable
William Eustis—

Kingsbury to Eustis

Fort Detroit,
Michigan Territory,
Sir, 2nd February, 1811—

Herewith enclosed is the resignation of Lt Anderson, he is an Officer of merit; and will be a great loss to the Army —

I have the honor to remain,
Very respectfully,
your most Obdt Servt—
Jacob Kingsbury Colonel
Honorable, 1st Regt Infantry
Secretary of War—

[Enclosure in Kingsbury to Eustis, Feb. 2]

Fort Detroit
Sir, February 2nd 1811

By order of Colonel Kingsbury, I have made a survey of the Island of Michilimackinac, duplicate plans of which, I shall have completed by the first day of May next, at which time it is my intention to leave the Army, and will thank you to signify your acception of my resignation, as second Lieutenant, in the U. S. Regt of Artillerists on that day

I have the honor
to be very respectfully
Sir, your Obdt Servt
The Hon. William Eustis John Anderson
Secretary of War Lieut Artillerists

War Department Order

War Department,
Feby 4. 1811

Sir,

Col. J. Kingsbury
75.

Your letter of the 30th of November ult. enclosing Lieut. Brevoort's report relative to the condition of the Snow Adams, has been received.

You will be pleased to have her put into a complete state of repair and equipment for service, having such part of the mechanical and other labor executed by the troops as they can perform.

I am, &c.

War Department Order

War Department,
Feby 12, 1811

Sir,

Lt. Hy B. Brevoort,

Your letter of the 3rd of Decr ult. has been received. You are authorized to make through the Asst Mily Agent at Detroit a requisition on the Military agent at Albany for such articles as you may deem necessary for the repair and equipment of the Snow Adams.—

respectfy &c

War Department Order

War Department,
Sir, Feby 12, 1811

Colo Anty Lamb.
68.
41.

Lieutenant Brevoort, commanding the U. S. Snow Adams, has been authorized to make a requisition upon you, through the Asst. Mily Agent at Detroit, of such Articles as may be necessary for her repair & equipment. You will be pleased on the receipt of the requisition, to procure and forward the Articles without delay.

respectfy &c

Kingsbury to Eustis

Fort Detroit
Michigan Territory
Sir 15th February 1811

The following is a Copy of a statement made by Lieutenant Brevoort (commanding the United States snow Adams) of freights Public & Private Carried in 1810

Amount of Public freights.....1255—75
Do of Private do.....1423—39—
Dolls....2679—14

I have the honor to remain
Very Respectfully

Honorable
William Eustis
Secretary of War—

Your Obdt Servt
Jacob Kingsbury Colonel
1st Regt Infantry

War Department Order

War Department,
March 8 1811.

Sir,

Colo Jacob Kingsbury
51.

Your letter of the 2nd ulto covering Lieut. Anderson's resignation has been received. Be pleased to have the enclosed acceptance delivered to him.

respectfully &c

Kingsbury to Eustis

Fort Detroit,
8th March, 1811—

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 4th Ultimo, on the Subject of the Snow Adams, and to inform you, that the necessary Arrangements have been made for putting her in complete repair, as early as possible. Enclosed is a Copy of Lieut Brevoorts requisition on the Military agent at Albany, which requisition has been forwarded through the Assistant Military Agent at this post in conformity to your instruction to Lieut Brevoort, of the 12th Ultimo—

I have the honor to remain,
Very respectfully,
your most obedt Servt
Jacob Kingsbury Colonel
1st Regt Infantry

Secretary of War—

Requisition for Repairs on Brig Adams

[Enclosure in Kingsbury to Eustis, Mar. 8]

Return for sundry articles required in the repair of the United States Snow Adams, Viz,—

134, fathoms of 5/2 Inch rope, for Shrouds, (four strands)
154, Do of 4/2 for topmast Shrouds, Stays & Back Stays, 4sds
60— " " 3/2 " topgallant rigging &c
20— " " 6 Inch for fore & Main Stays,
120,— " " 3 " Hausser laid, for fore & Main Sheats,
60, " " 4 " Hausser laid, for fore & main Tacks,
60, " " 2/2 " Hausser laid, for Trisail & Jib Sheats,
120, " " 3/2 " topsail Sheats & buoy ropes, &c
240, " " 3 " for Lanyards & Tackle falls,
60, " " 4 " for Topsail Ties, & runners (four Strands)
120, " " 2/2 for Braces—
120, " " 2 Inch for Buntlines, Clewlines & c,
60, " " of 9, & 60, of 6 Thread ratlin,
1, Coil of Spun Yarn, 2 lead, & 1 log line,
24, Scanes of Muslin, 8 pounds of sewing, & 4 of ropeing twine
1, Box lamp Black, & 5 galls Spirits of turpentine
1, Keg of putty (8 galls) 2 Barrels of linseed Oil, Boiled,
8, Kegs of white lead, 2 Kegs Ivy black, 1 Keg yellow & 2 Kegs Red paints, 1 Dozen paint brushes assorted—

3, Barrels of Pitch, 2 Barrels of Tar, & 1 Barrel of Rosin, One Sett of Blocks, with Hooks & thimbles complete, for a Vessel of 150, Tons, including Brail, Buntline, Clewline, leading Blocks, &c from 4 to 6 Inches, all the large Shives to be bushed, with Irons for each Block, 4 topmast Shives, to be bushed, & large enough for a 4 Inch rope—
300, wt of 6/2 Inch, 80 wt of 8/2 Inch Spikes (100, wt of 6. Inch Deck Nails. 1 Dozen Spike Gimblets, assorted—50 feet of 7/8th bolts, 200. feet of 6/8, 100 feet of 5/8. & 50 feet of 4/8 Bolts, ready drawn, 6 pod augers of 6/8th 6 of 5/8ths, & 6 of 4/8ths for Bolts, 2 Screw Augers of 1/4 Inches for boring Ring & sett bolt holes, 45 feet of 1/4 Inch Iron for Ring, & Sett Bolts. 6d, 8d, 10d, 12d, & 20 penny nails, & Brads, sufficient for finishing the Cabbin & State Rooms One Stream Anchor, 500, wt Gross, 5, Bolts, No 7, of Topgallant Duck, for awning, top gallant sails & Jib. One piece of live Oak for Caulking mallets 1 foot long, & 9 or 12 Inches square—
Signed Duplicates— H. B. Brevoort, Lieut
Comdg the Adams—

Detroit, March 4th 1811.

Hull to Eustis

Sir Detroit April 12th 1811.

I must apologize to you for departing from a resolution I had taken not again to write to you on any subject, not rendered necessary by my duty—This resolution however has been taken for no other reason than a sense of propriety—having nothing to do with the military de-

partment, it is doubtless improper to address you on any subject relating to it.

Capt Whistler is now stationed at this Post in a subordinate command—He built the Fort at Chicago, and Commanded there until the last summer—he has been superseded in his rank, and yet continues in service. I have seen a letter addressed to him by Col. Burbeck dated at Washington, and from the tenor of it, I presume it was written by the knowledge of your Predecessor, advising him to waive his right to promotion, and stating as an inducement his continuance in the Command at Chicago.

It is well known, that Capt Whistler was a Sergt in the British army which surrendered under the convention of Sarratoga—He has however been a long time in the american Army, and has been considered as entitled to his regular promotion to the rank of Captain. From what I know of him, I believe him to be faithful, and capable. He has a large family twelve or thirteen children—many of them young—You must be sensible of the difficulties of supporting them in his present situation.

The command at Chicago, or Fort Wayne is an object, he is desirous of obtaining. I have examined all the papers relating to his difficulties at Chicago, and believe his object has been a faithful discharge of his duty, and the promotion of the public interest.

He hopes that you will consider his very peculiar case, and afford him all the relief consistent with your duty, and the public service.

I am very respectfully your most

The Honbl Wm. Eustis
Secretary of War

Obedt Servt
William Hull

War Department Order

War Department

(circular)
Gov Wm Hull
Charles Jouett Esqr
Jos. B. Varnum Esqr
Nicks Boitern Esqr
John Johnston Esqr
Gen Wm Clark
Rastus Granger
Indian Agents
Genl W Clark 326

Ante above
John Johnson 179
12

E Granger 451.

Sir. April 15th 1811

It is possible (indeed it has been intimated) that in consequence of the operation of the late Law prohibiting the importation into the United States of British Goods, the British Agents and Traders with the Indians, may attempt to excite in their minds, prejudices and hostile dispositions towards the United States, insinuating, that as the British Goods intended for their Trade, will not be permitted to enter and pass the American Posts, on the Western Frontier, this act, which has been dictated as a measure of general policy in relation to Great Britain, was intended as an act of hostility against the Indians.— You will be on your guard, and use all proper means to anticipate and frustrate any such attempts. Explaining to the Chiefs of the Several Tribes as occasion may offer, that the Government of the U. S. has been compelled by long continued injuries and violations of their rights on the part of Great Britain, for which no Satisfaction or redress has been had, to interdict their trade rather than make war against them: that as the White people have, it is expected the Red paople will, submit to an inconvenience which it is in

the power of Great Britain to terminate, by returning to a sense of right and pursuing a course of justice

In resisting such endeavours and conciliating the disposition of the Indians, your vigilence and exertions are expected. And in case it Should become necess[ary] to extend indulgencies, and to make presents exceeding the usual allowance, your discretion is confided in, to act as circumstances may require

The agents at the Several factories will receive instructions on the Subject, from the Superintendent of Indian Trade.

Proclamation of William Hull

COPY.

By William Hull, Governor of the Territory of Michigan.

A Proclamation.

Whereas the Governor has received information that sundry persons belonging to the Territory of Michigan are making settlements and improvements on the lands belonging to the United States within the said Territory without having obtained a lawful authority so to do; And whereas by a law of the United-States approved March 3, 1807, it is provided that it shall be lawful for the President of the United-States to take such measures and employ such military force as he shall judge neces-

sary and proper to remove from the public lands any person or persons who shall thereafter take possession of the same or attempt to make a settlement thereon until thereunto authorized by law; In order therefore that those persons who have thus commenced settlements on the public lands without lawful authority may be apprized of the law on the subject, and the consequences to which they are liable, and to prevent others from following the example, The Governor has deemed it his duty to give this proclamation—.

Done at Detroit this first day of May, in the year of our Lord, One thousand, eight hundred and eleven.

William Hull

By the Governor,
Reuben Attwater
Secretary of the Territory of Michigan.

Hull to Eustis

Detroit May 31st 1811.

Sir,

I have received your letter of the 8th of May—I am happy that a Regiment of regular troops has been ordered to Pittsburgh—In the event of a war with England there is no doubt but the Indians will be excited to hostility against the United States, and the Northern frontier will be the first object of attack.

You must excuse me for once more troubling you on the subject of Capt Dyson.

I have witnessed his conduct for six years—he cer-

tainly is not without his imperfections, but who is perfect?—he is a social, convival, and hospitable man—undoubtedly, sometimes he has carried his conviviality and hospitality to excess. I venture, however to declare to you, that he has no confirmed habits, injurious to him as an officer, as far as my knowledge extends—If he had, I think I should know it.

His information, his officerlike and gentlemanly conduct, and his honorable feelings, would render him an ornament to any army. If the officers of the Army generally in point of talents are equal to Capt Dyson, it has much better officers than I had imagined—besides, I know him to be a man of strict fidelity, and that he would pay more regard to the interest of the public, than to his own.

I hope in some way, your present impressions with respect to him will be removed, and he will be restored to your confidence. I am sure it would be the case, if you had an opportunity of witnessing his conduct.

With respect to Capt Whistler, it is certainly a justice which I owe him to say, that since he has been at this Post, his conduct has been meritorious as an officer, and considering the expense of his numerous family, and all the circumstances which attend him, I cannot but feel an interest in his situation.

I am very respectfully your most
Obedt Servt
William Hull

The Honb Wm Eustis
Secretary of the department
of war.

P. Hanks to Eustis

Michilimackinac 28th June 1811—

Sir

I had the honor to receive your instruction of the 10th of December, relative to the Survey of the military reservation at this Post, but for the want of the necessary instruments for that purpose, I have not been able to carry it into effect. This Survey was made last fall by Lieut Anderson, Capt Howard and Myself attended the running of the lines, which were as nigh those made under the direction of Col Burbeck as was possible to make them from the information that could be collected relative to it. Capt Howard requested Mr Anderson to forward one Copy of the Survey to the war Department and one to this post, there has none been received here, and that they may be the sooner lodged in the different Departments I have forwarded a Copy of your instructions to Col Kingsbury at Detroit with statement of the Circumstances, it will I hope be in his power to get the necessary Copies from that Survey—

A Copy of the circular instructions from the war Department addressed to Mr Varnum as Indian Agent has been handed me by him, that duty having been performed at this Post heretofore by the Commanding officer, and Mr Varnum not feeling himself authorized to act on them, having receivd no appointment or instructions previously, While I have the honorof being charged with them there shall be nothing wanting on my part to repel any attempt that may be made by the British Agents or Traders to prejudice the Indians against the United

States—On the 7th Inst A number of the principal Chiefs and young men of the Chippawas and Ottawas Nations of Indians arrived here and informed me that they wanted to talk with me on business of importance. They Commenced by saying that when they left their homes some of their young men would not come with them for fear they were coming to quarrel with the Americans, but this they said was not their intention, they had come as friends to them, and what they were going to say they wished me to communicate to their Great Father, the President of the United States, and that they expected to have an answer to it by this time the next year. The Substance of their talk was to request their Great Father to take pity on them, their wives and children and allow the Traders to pass into their Country as they had formerly done.

To this I have no doubt they have been advised by the British Traders at this place, of which there are a considerable number at this time, and I understand that it is their prevailing opinion, or otherwise common talk, that the measures taken by the United States, will cause an Indian war. I have lately had an opportunity to explain to some of the Chiefs, the Motive of the United States, as directed in the instructions. they appeared not dissatisfied, but asked me for Tobacco to take to their Villages to Smoke with their people when they Communicated the intelligence—

I have the Honor to be Sir very
Respectfully your Obt Servt
P. Hanks Lieut
of Arty Comg

The Honble Secy of war

Hull to Eustis

Detroit 18th July 1811.

Dear Sir—

The object of this letter, is to introduce to your acquaintance my worthy friend, Colo Kingsbury. . . . . He leaves this post, to attend his duty on a Court Martial, in the vicinity of Washington, and expects before that business is finished, the season will be so far advanced, as to render his return inconvenient, especially with his family, which will accompany him as far as Connecticutt— — — —

The Colo is among the few, now on the Stage, who acted a part, as a revolutionary Officer — — —He is a worthy man, and a valuable officer — — —

After he has discharged his duty on the Court Martial, he wishes to be indulged with a furlough, untill the spring, and I sincerely hope, the state of things will be such that his request may be granted with propriety — — —

I have one further request to make, as well on my own account as his; which is that he may be continued in command at this post—Since he has been here, the most perfect harmony has subsisted, not only in the Garrison, but between the military & civil department of the government — — — —

I am very sincerely your
Friend & most obedt Servt
William Hull

Wm Eustis Esqr D. W.

Deposition of Daniel Robinson

Territory of Michigan To wit;
District of Detroit

Be it remembered, that on the nineteenth day of September in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and eleven, personally appeared before the undersigned, one of the Justices of the peace, within the District aforesaid, Daniel Robison, who being duly sworn, deponth and saith, that he believes the within articles to have been worth seventy one dollars and fifty cents, agreeably to their valuation. The Deponent further saith that he considers the valuation a very moderate one, as the said William Munger was at great expense in building said House and saving his Hay.

Daniel Robinson

Sworn and subscribed before me
at the city of Detroit, the day
and year as above written.

James Abbott,
Justice of the peace.

Damages to Property of Daniel Robinson

[Enclosure in Deposition of Daniel Robinson, Sept. 19]

Dr. Ottawa Nation to Daniel Robinson—

1811 Septm. 19th To burning an house built by myself on the lands on the Miami of Lake Erie, purchased by the Treaty of Greenville, by the people of the said

Nation, the beginning of October last	—$50—
To burning 8 Tons of hay, in stacks at the same time	64
To one Iron Kettle, distroyed or taken away at the same time . .	2
	$116

Deposition of Wm Munger

Territory of Michigan, To wit
District of Detroit.

Be it remembered, that on the nineteenth day of September, in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and eleven, personally appeared before the subscriber, one of the Justices of the peace within the District aforesaid, William Munger, who being duly sworn, deponth and saith, that he believes the within articles to have been worth one hundred and sixteen dollars; agreeably to their valuation. The Deponent further says that he considers the valuation a very moderate one, as the said Daniel Robison was at great expense in building said House and saving said Hay.

Wm Munger

Sworn and subscribed before me
at the city of Detroit, the day and
year as above written.

James Abbott
Justice of the peace.

Damages to Property of William Munger

[Enclosure in Deposition of Wm. Munger, Sept. 19]

Dr. Ottawa Nation to Wm. Munger

1811 Septm. 19th

To burning an house built by myself on the lands on the Miami of Lake Erie, purchased by the Treaty of Greenville, by the people of the said Nation, the beginning of October last	$20
Burning 7 tons of hay at the same time	49
Five bushels of Potatoes distroyed	2.50
	$71.50

War Department Order

The Commandg Officer Detroit

War Dept Novr 15th 1811.—

Sir,

The Government having purchased of Elijah Brush by his Attorney Aaron Greeley all his lot of land, on St Honore Street in Detroit, with the privileges and appertenances belonging to the same, you will notify Mr Brush and receive possess sion accordingly for the United States.—

J. Whistler to Capt. James Rhea

Dear Sir Fort Detroit 27th Novr 1811—

Since I wrote to you on the 26th Inst., I have been creditably informed, that the British Government have sent an express to the Prophet; whether it is on private, or public business, I am not able to inform you, but should you be able to ascertain for a certainty, that *that Government,* are tampering with the Indians against ours, it will be advisable for you, to endeavour to intercept all such documents, and forward them to the Secretary of War; first taking copies of them, for fear of a miscarriage, one of which you will send to the Comdg Officer at the Post.—

On the rect of this, or as soon after as you should receive intelligence officially, of Governor Harrison's situation, you will send an express immediately to this Post; also with the particulars—

Joseph McMahan of your company, with a non-commissioned officer, I believe would perform such an expedition; as the former is well acquainted with the rout from Fort Wayne, to this post, and it would be advisable to avoid the road as much as possible—However you are best acquainted with the men of your company and can judge which to send.

Dear Sir

I am with every respect your Humble Sert

(Signed) J. Whistler Capt

Comdg—

P. S. You had better advise with Mr. Johnson occasionally, in getting intelligence from the Governor &c

Capt James Rhea J W.

Report of a Detroit Committee on Public Safety

At an assembly of certain citizens and inhabitants of the Territory of Michigan held on Sunday the eighth day of December one thousand eight hundred eleven, in consequence of receiving information on the preceding night of the battle on the Wabash of the seventh of November, one thousand eight hundred eleven,

Solomon Sibley was elected chairman.

Augustus B. Woodward Secretary.

The gazette of Pittsburgh, entitled the Commonwealth, of the twenty fifth of November, being first publicly read in the English language, and afterward translated into the French language, by sentences,

Resolved, unanimously, that it is necessary and expedient to adopt some immediate measures for the protection and defence of these settlements.

Resolved, unanimously, that it is indispensably necessary to organize and maintain a nocturnal guard in the city of Detroit, with out intermission for thirty days from this date at least and as much longer as shall appear to be requisite from further informations which may be received.

Resolved, that it is expedient by the most prompt & practicable means to obtain information of the dangers impending over these settlements.

Resolved that it is expedient and necessary to appoint a committee of public safety. Ordered that the said committee be composed of five persons. Ordered that they be selected by thirteen persons to be immediately named by the meeting, to retire into a separate apart-

ment, and to consider of and report the committee, by whose election the meeting will abide. Thirteen persons were immediately appointed who retired into a separate apartment and after some time returned and reported the following persons as the committee of public safety;

Solomon Sibley
Augustus B. Woodward
James Witherill
George McDougall
Daniel Baker

Resolved that the committee of public safety be empowered and instructed to collect all the pecuniary and physical means of defence which may be afforded them by the general or the local government or private patriotism, and apply the same the most effectually in aid of the temporary protection of the country during this impending danger, and that as citizens we will firmly support them in all honorable means of effecting the above object at the risque of our lives and properties.

And then the assembly adjourned until called together by the committee of public safety.

Sol. Sibley
Chairman

Attest,

A. B. Woodward
Secretary.

At a meeting of citizens called by the committee of public safety, to consider of a memorial to congress, held on the tenth day of December one thousand eight hundred eleven, the following memorial was unanimously agreed upon, and orderd to be immediately transmitted, and that it be signed by the committee in behalf of the meeting.

James Witherill and Daniel Baker having declined acting Harris Hampden Hickman, and Richard Smyth were elected to supply the vacancies.

Sol Sibley
Chairman

Attest,
A. B. Woodward.
Secretary.

Memorial to Congress by Citizens of Michigan Territory

To the president, senate, and house of representatives, of the United States of America, the memorial of the undersigned, in behalf of the citizens and inhabitants of the Territory of Michigan, assembled on the eighth and tenth days of December, one thousand eight hundred eleven, respectfully represents and submits the matters following.

Dissatisfactions with the aboriginal inhabitants of these countries have been for some time engendering. They have at length been kindled into an open flame, and their blood with that of the American citizen has stained the plains of the Wabash; the first which has been spilt in the northwestern territory, under public authority, since the pacification of Greeneville, of the third day of august one thousand seven hundred ninety five.

We pray the god of peace, in his mercy, to grant that these disasters, so portentious to our country, may spread no farther; and that the forbearance, and moderation of our government, and, at the same time, its

firmness, will prevent the conflagration from extending along the whole line of the frontier, from Kaskaskias to Detroit, through the Illinois, Indiana, and Michigan governments.

We know, however, from too long and fatal experience, that the Savage mind, once fully incensed, once diverted from the pursuit of their ordinary subsistance, once turned upon plunder, once inflamed by the loss of their kindred and friends, once gratified with the taste of blood, is difficult to appease, and as terrible as subtle in vengeance. The horrors of savage belligerence description cannot paint. No picture can resemble the reality. No effort can bring the imagination up to the standard of the fact. Nor sex nor age, have claims. The short remnant of life, left to the hoary head, trembling with age and infirmities, is snatched away. The tenderest infant, yet imbibing nutrition from the mamilla of maternal love, and the agonized mother herself, alike wait the stroke of the relentless tomahawk. No vestige is left of what fire can consume. Nothing which breathes the breath of life is spared. The animals reared by the cares of civilized men are involved in his destruction. What human foresight can divine the quarter which shall be struck. It is in the dead of the night, in the darkness of the moon, in the howling of the [?], that the demoniac deed is done.

The anxieties which crowd upon those of tender sex and years, upon our aged and infirm, and the throb of sensibility which communicates itself from them to those of hardier ages and habits, compel us to approach the fathers of our country, to expose to them the dangers and weakness of this colonial establishment, and to de-

mand the protection of their parental arm. While our representation is on its wing, and ere our wishes, or your intentions, or the extent of the danger, are capable, at this distant separation, of becoming known, we shall be true to ourselves, and true to you; and all that precaution, united with resolution can effect, we shall endeavor to accomplish. But we confidently trust that inaction or hesitation may prevail no longer; and that effective measures, demanded no less by the solid and permanent interests of the United States, than by our local exposure, will not be delayed.

The first impression which is necessary to be distinctly made, on the minds of those to whom the destinies of the republic are confided, is that of our comparative strength, our comparative weakness. To those whose duty, or whose wish, it may be, to possess themselves of information, at once the most accurate, and the most minute, with respect to the topographical, and statistical relations of this territory, we give a reference on the one hand, to the surveys of the whole of the settled parts of this country, recently taken, and which are of record in the treasury department; and, on the other, to the enumerations of the inhabitants, which have just been completed, and are of record in the department of state. To generalize this information, and to present it *plain* and *naked* to the mind, we will condense the results in few words.

In the territory of Michigan there are nine principal settlements.

1. The River Miami.
2. The River Raisin.
3. The River Huron of Lake Erie.

4. The River Ecorce.
5. The River Rouge.
6. The River Detroit.
7. The River Huron of Lake St. Clair.
8. The River Sinclair.
9. The island of Michillimackina.
10. Sundry detached Settlements.

From the first to the second, in the order they are enumerated, the distance is thirty two miles. From the second to the sixth thirty six miles. From the sixth to the seventh forty miles. From the seventh to the eighth thirty five miles. From the eighth to the ninth two hundred miles. The total, from one extreme to the other, three hundred forty three miles.

In the three first the whole population is one thousand three hundred forty souls. The males above sixteen three hundred ninety one. In the four next the whole population is two thousand two hundred twenty seven, males as before five hundred ninety nine. In the two last the whole population is one thousand seventy souls, males as before five hundred three.

In this territory are two garrisons; one in Detroit, one at Michillimackina. The first has ninety four men, the second seventy nine.

Of the whole population four-fifths are French, the remainder American, with a small portion of British.

The whole population of the Territory of Michigan, including French, Americans, and British; settlers, and troops; whites, and persons of color; is four thousand seven hundred sixty two.

In other frontier cou [ms. defaced] the frontier is on one side. It is also on the extremity. The settlements

thicken as you recede from the circumferental establishments.

In the peculiar manner in which this territory is settled two striking particularities are to be observed.

First; The whole territory is a double frontier. The British are on one side. The savages on the other.

Second; Every individual house is a frontier. No one farm is covered by another farm in the rear of it.

It may therefore be at once conceived, what would be the situation of the people of the territory of Michigan, in a case of determined hostility against them, by the savages. The inhabitants are so dispersed, that to assemble one hundred men, upon any one spot, on a sudden nocturnal notice, is physically impossible, and how are even the one hundred to be induced, in the hour of danger, to relinquish the last pleasure this world can present them, that of dying along with their innocent and helpless families, and to abandon them to certain destruction, under the, perhaps, visionary hope of any where embodying in force adequate to meet an enemy! What shall reduce into concert the exertions of two distinct people, unacquainted with the languages of each other; and who have reason to be divided in the degree of their fear? Is there again a refuge for the helpless in flight? On the south the savages intercept them from their brethren of the States. On the west, on the north, they perfectly surround them. Shall they then lift an eye to the east, throw themselves on the mercy of the British, and will they, or can they, there, find mercy? Will reason sanction the idea, or have past events authorized the hope! And what, lastly, is to be expected from the military? They *can,* and *will,* defend themselves. But

they will not march out of the walls of their garrison. They have not even men enough to man their works.

Viewing the situation of the country in this light, which is no other than literal truth, the essential enquiry which remains is—*what is requisite to be done?* Perhaps you will think it right that we on the spot should speak our minds. We do so then, and trust our sentiments will be approved.

First; An increase of the military force is necessary, sufficient to man the works, and afford a body to march out, in aid of the militia; a part cavalry.

Second; Additional garrisons are necessary on other points of the northwestern frontier.

To present this subject in a view more systematic, more direct, than by generally referring to it, we suggest three points for new garrisons, calculated, as we concieve to protect the whole of the present frontier on the north.

First, a garrison at the intersection of a meridian line from the mouth of the grand au Glaize river with a line of latitude drawn from the head of the river Sinclair, or, which is the same thing, the *embouchure* or outlet of Lake Huron, being the most northern and western point to which the native title is lawfully extinguished, according to the first article of the treaty of Detroit, of the seventeenth day of November one thousand eight hundred seven.

We are decided in our sentiment that this garrison ought not be be on the course of the navigation, along the great waters; but in the interior of the peninsula. Formerly the points on the navigation were the most important. There was trade and commercial intercourse; no agriculture. Times have altered. At present the

little commerce which remains is sufficiently safe. It is *agricultural* protection which is wanted.

Without this garrison you can neither run the lines of the treaty which has been last referred to; nor survey the lands acquired under it; nor sell them when surveyed; nor settle them when sold.

Second; a garrison at the mouth of the Wisconsin River, according to the eleventh article of the treaty of St. Louis, of the third day of November one thousand eight hundred four; being the most northern and western point to which the native title is lawfully extinguished in that quarter.

Third; a garrison in the same latitude as the mouth of the Wisconsin River, on the River Missouri; as soon as legitimate means may be used.

If peace prevails elsewhere on the frontier, notwithstanding the battle on the Wabash, the increase of the military force before mentioned and the establishment of the subsequent garrisons will, as we conceive, give us protection; and, in that happy event, if we have a right to reproach ourselves with, if we have pressed too hard upon a fugitive people, if we have imposed on one that is ignorant, if, approaching the meridian of our strength, we are becoming indifferent to the happiness, to the rights, of an unfortunate race of mankind, who, notwithstanding any temporary injuries they may be capable of inflicting, are destined to melt away before the irresistible advances of an empire, of whose magnitude, of whose stability, they can have no conception, if we have relinquished the *feelings* of their *"father"* before they deprive us of the *title*, let us not refuse our admiration to the spirit which prompts man to defend his home, his

country, to the last hour; let us seasonably retrace our steps; let us hasten to recall sentiments of humanity; let us hasten to render them justice!

If, on the contrary, pacific exertions have failed, and war and contest prevail, of which *your* information, notwithstanding our proximity will be more prompt and authentic than *ours*; if, at the moment that our dangers and our feelings are announcing in your halls the warm blood of life is yet smoking on your frontier, we know of no reliance, in addition to our own exertions, and the military force to which we have adverted, but detachments of militia from the States of Ohio, Kentucky, New York, and Pennsylvania.

We will not urge the importance of our country to you. Your interest, your honor compel you to keep it, and, its immediate protection is, on one side a *right,* on the other a *duty.* Prompt effective defence is wisdom. The country once lost, who shall count the lives, or the treasures you must expend to regain it?

All which is humbly and respectfully submitted.

Sol: Sibley
Augustus B. Woodward
Geo. McDougall
Harris H. Hickman
Richd Smyth

[Endorsed]
Memorial and
Representation of the citizens
of Detroit, in the Michigan
territory, stating their exposed
& defenceless situation, and praying further protection from the
National Govt.
1811 Dec. 27 Read and to be———

J. Whistler to Eustis

Sir Fort Detroit 10th Decemr 1811

On the 7th instant I had the honor of receiving your letter of the 12th ultimo, and agreeably to your orders I have notifyed Mr. Bush, and got possession of the lot of land as therein mentioned—We have received accounts here, that Governor Harrison and the Prophet have had a serious conflict, but have not heard the particulars—I had a letter from Capt Rhea of Fort Wayne on the subject, a copy of which I had forwarded to the adjt & Inspector on the 24th ultimo—It is also [reported?] here, that the Brittish government, had sent an express to the Prophet immediately on hearing of the battle—I wrote to Capt Rhea informing him thereof, a copy of which is here inclosed—

Sir
I have the honor of being
very respectfully
Your Humb servt
J Whistler Capt
Commanding

The Honorable
Secretary of War

Hull to Eustis

Dear Sir— Newton 11th. Decembr 1811.

Enclosed herewith are some Letters and Papers of a public nature, which I request you to forward to Mr.

Attwater the acting Governor , of the Michigan Territory , under your cover ————

While I feel some anxiety on account of the event, which has taken place on the Wabash , I have grounds to hope, the Indians in Michigan Territory, the State of Ohio, &c will not make it a common cause—My family are in good health , and we have much satisfaction in the Society of our old friends—

We beg you to mention us in friendship to Mrs Eustis and it would afford us great pleasure to be in a situation to become acquainted with her — — —

I am very sincerely

Hon. Wm Eustis
S. D. W.

Your Friend &c
Wm Hull

Reuben Attwater to Eustis

Hon. William Eustis
Secretary at War

Territory of Michigan
Secretary's Office
Detroit December 15th 1811.

Sir,

Yours of the 10th of October last I received, having no documents left with me by his Excellency Gov. Hull Superintendent of the Indian Department respecting the particular kind of goods the Indians would prefer for their Annuities for the year 1812. and the chiefs not holding a council as the Gov. requested, It is not in my power to give you any information on the subject, it is almost impossible to call chiefs of the different nations together as they are now out a hunting—.

The present situation of this Country is such that I deem it a duty incumbent on me to inform you that I

have received an Account of the Battle fought by Gov. Harrison & the Shawne Prophet & not receiving any official account, I have not considered it necessary to adopt any other measures than to Order the Militia Inspected and patroles at night, I am of the opinion that we cannot place that confidence in the Militia of this Territory, that we can on those in New-England as ours are mostly French men and some British subjects and if we have War being on the frontier we have not military force to defend the Country—

With sentiments of Esteem
Your Obt Servt
REUBEN ATTWATER

[Endorsed]
Detroit Decr 15th 1811 Reuben Attwater cannot, in the absence of Gov Hull, State the articles for next years annuity. Recd Jany. 2nd 1812

HULL TO EUSTIS

Sir— Newton 17th Decembr 1811

By the public papers, I perceive, with much pleasure, that Congress are taking strong and decided measures, for a redress of the injuries our Country has received from Great Brittain.

These measures will bring the question to a point — — —England must do us Justice, or war must be the consiquence—Every humane man will wish for the first alternative—Every man of spirit and honor will prefer the second to further forbearance— — —Should the second become indispensable, we must whet our swords,

and remember the days of our revolutionary contest — —

While I ask no favour from the government I stand ready to perform any honorable duties, which may be usefull to my country— — — — —If my experience during the revolutionary war; if an important command in the militia, for a long period; If my public services as Governor of a Territory for near seven years; If a knowledge of the geographical situation of both the Canadas, obtained by travelling from Quebec to their most distant settlements; If an acquaintance withthe principal characters in those provinces, and a knowledge of the feelings and sentiments, and even wishes of a large proportion of the people; If a personal acquaintance, with all the Indian Chiefs, and a large portion of the Warriors both in our own territory, and in the Canadas; If all these considerations, joined to a vigorous and healthy constitution, and a heart devoted to the wellfare of my country, can render my military services usefull in the exigencies, which appear to be presenting, they are freely offered— — —

By communicating the substance of this letter to the President, you will oblige your

Friend & most obedt Servt

Hon. Wm Eustis, Secretary of the department of war.

William Hull

Whistler to Eustis

Sir Fort Detroit 10th Feby, 1812

I have taken the liberty of giving you the earliest infermation of some sercumstances that came to my

knowledge this day some parts are facts, and others from reports which I have reason to believe,—The facts are thus, that a few days past a Col St. George has arrived at Malden and this day two other officers in the Genl Staff and tomorrow or next day the Militia of that place are to be received by one of them The report says Mr Elliott the Indian agent and is also a member of parliment for upper Canada, (he left Malden about two weeks just for the purpose of convening at the [?] of upper Canada), but is now on his return to Malden, If so it must be for the purpose of drawing the attention of the Indians from our government in favour of that of the Brittish. It is also reported that there is a body of Brittish Troops on there march for Malden, and at present they have a number of men cutting timber (as many as eighty) for the purpose of building new vessells for those Lakes—From these sercumstances I thought it my Duty to give this information to the Honorable secretary of War—I have mounted nine pieces of Ordnance in addition,—and have exercised the Infantry to them daily when the weather would admit, as well as the small arms, and shall commence Immediately to make a sufficient number of fixed ammunition to Sute each callebar,—

Sir I have the honor to be
very respectfully
Your most obt & Hum Sert
J. Whistler Capt
Commanding

The Honerable
Secretary of War

[Endorsed]
Fort Detroit 10 Feb '12
Capt. J. Whistler stating the the [sic] british are organizing the militia and cutting timber to build ships for the lakes.
Recd Feb 27th 1812

REUBEN ATTWATER TO EUSTIS

Territory of Michigan
Detroit Febry 11th 1812

The Honbl William Eustis

Sir,

I have been requested by the inhabitants living at the foot of the Rapids on the Miami to furnish twenty five or thirty stands of Arms and some ammunition to enable them to defend themselves if attackd It was not in my power to comply with their request—You will please to observe that the Inhabitants are alarmd, and I am of the opinion not without cause when I hear of the arrival at Malden in Canada of two Gen. staff officers one Engineer and making preparation for War, building ships reviewing Troops of every description, giving Indians, Powder, & Ball & they going to the Prophet not having the honor of hearing from you I have in addition to the above written to the Secy of State of the U. States

With respect
Your obt. Servt
REUBEN ATTWATER

Reuben Attwater to James Monroe

Territory of Michigan
The Hon. James Munroe Secretary's Office
Sir, Detroit Febry 11th 1812.

Having written to the Secretary of War frequently respecting the defenceless state of this Territory being one of the frontiers and in my opinion of consequence to the U. States, I have now taken the liberty to address you on the subject––. When I take into consideration the force of the Garrison at this place consisting of not more than about fifty or sixty effective men, when if attackd would require Eight or ten hundred to defent it, and the Militia on which I cannot place so much confidence as I could wish as they consist of French & British subjects I deem it a duty incumbent on me to inform you that I was yesterday informd that two Gen. staff Officers with an Engineer had arrived at Malden in the Province of Upper Canada making every preparation for War, employing men to cut timber to build a number of ships of War; inspecting their Troops and Militia and in addition One hundred more will soon arrive making every preparation; as the British have been accustomed to make the first attack by surprise we ought to be prepared.— I have endeavored to put our Militia in a situation to meet them, but with not that success I could wish; as we have few Inhabitants to defend ourselves they poor and the property of the U. States which is of great value, and viewing the wounded feelings of the Inhabitants as to our situation no aid given us in case of an attack being informd by a Gentleman from a member of Congress that

no Troops can be sent here for our relief until next spring or summer on account of the Road when in fact the Winter is preferable to any other season for them to come into the southern part of the Territory and then proceed to such Post as the safety of our Country requires, Volunteers from the State of Ohio might arrive here within twenty five days after the Gov. of State should receive instructions to allow them to March to our assistance—More of the British a person calld Elliot Indian agent also a member of [ms. defaced]ment ordered to return from York to Malden immediately, expected there within four days to take an [ms. defaced] part in making preperation for whatever event may take place in addition to that I am credibly informd that on the 10th Instant his Majesty has furnished powder and Ball to the Indians and they are on their way to the Prophets Town—.Not hearing any thing from the Head of Dept and no probability of any Military force coming for our defence, I have it in contemplation to place a number of our Militia in service which I doubt not but the U. States will pay—.

With sentiments of Esteem & respect
Y.O.H.S.
Reuben Attwater,

Whistler to Eustis

Fort Detroit 25th Feb, 1812

Sir

On Ensign Curtiss', accepting of his appointment he made application to me for quarters, I have complied

untill the Honorable Secretary orders him to some other Garrison

Our neighbours the Brittish are making great progress in there works, they are building in addition to what I have already informed the Honorable secretary, two Block houses at Malden—There are several reports here that they have sent runners to Prisque Isle, Cleavland and Cincinnati, should this be the case (as I have not the smalest doubt of the truth thereof) it must be the design to watch the moovements of our Troops, should there be any sent to the assistance of this place—

I am now (with the consent of the Contractors agent) mooveing a quantity of provisions into the Garrison as a deposite in case of War—

Sir

I have the Honor to be

The Honorable
Secretary of War

Very respectfully
your Humb Servt
J. Whistler Capt
Commanding

Hull to Eustis

Washington 6th March 1812

Sir—

The prompt manner, in which you have adopted measures, for the protection of Detroit, and the other settlements in the Territory of Michigan, inspire me with confidence, that such ulterior arrangements, will speedily be made, as the peculior situation of that section of the United States, may require—How far the measures all-

ready adopted will give security to that part of the Country, in the event of a War with Great Brittain, is a subject worthy of consideration — — —

Officers of a Company have been appointed, with orders to recruit in the Territory ——

The Secretary, acting as Governor, has been authorized to make a detachment of four Companies of Militia and call them into actual service — — — —

The commanding Officer of Fort Detroit, has been directed to erect Batteries on the bank of the River Detroit for the protection of the Town — — — — —

These, as incipient measures, I very much approved and was particularly pleased with the decisive manner, they were adopted— — —It must be apparent however, they add no physical strength to that section of the Country; The force allready there is only better organized, and prepared to be called into action — — — By comparing this force, with the force which may be opposed to us, will evince the necessity of additional means of defence, if the Country is worth preserving— — —

In the Fort of Detroit I understand, by the last returns, there are less, than one hundred regulars— — — —The population of the Territory is less than five thousand and this population, principally of the Canadian Character — — —connected with the Post of Detroit, and three hundred miles north, is the Island of Michillimackinac where is a Fort goveroned by a Company of Regulars —— near the south bend of Lake Michigan on the westerly side, is Fort Dearborn, likewise goveroned by a Company of regulars—

This is all the force on which we can at present calcu-

late, for the safety of our Northern Frontier, and for the protection of the Indians, which the United States are bound by treaties to afford——

No support can be derived from the Indian nations, even in the event of War, because our Officers are instructed to advise them to remain neuter, [sic] and not to accept their services, if they should be offered — — —

I will now consider the British force, opposed to this part of the United States— — —

A Fort at Amherstburg, at the mouth of the Detroit River, garrisoned by about one hundred British Troops —another Fort on the Island of St Joseph's at the mouth of the River St Marys, garrisoned, by about fifty british Troops — — — — —Two armed ships on Lake Erie, which command the waters, and would prevent all communication from the States, thro' that Channel — — —

A population of at least fifty thousand, in that part of upper Canada, which is connected with the Detroit River, & Lake Erie, and could easily be brought tc operate against our settlements.

About four thousand Men, principally Canadians, employed in the Indian trade, and under brittish influence and lastly may be reckoned all the Indians in upper Canada, and a large proportion of the powerfull Nations, residing in the Territory of the United States, who now hold a constant, and friendly intercourse with the British Agents, and are liberaly fed and cloathed, by the bounty of the British government — — — —

It appears from this statement, that the British force, which can be brought to operate against us, in the Territory, is more than ten to one, without including the Indians — — — —

It requires no difficult reasoning, to determine what must be the consiquence — That part of the United States, must fall into the hands of the British Government, with all the Inhabitants, the Forts at Chicago, Michillimackanac, & Detroit, and all the public Stores, with the public and private Vessels, on the Lake.

This will give our Ėnimies, the entire command, of all the Country north & north west of the Miami of Lake Erie, and the settlements on the western part of the State of Ohio, will be subject to the depradations of the powerfull northern nations of Savages — — — There is nothing in my Opinion (in the event of war) can prevent this State of things, but an adequate force, on the Detroit River, opposite to the Settlements in upper Canada — —

It may be asked, how is this force to be placed there and how is it to be supported — — If sir, we cannot command the Ocean, we can command the Island Lakes of our Country — — I have allways been of the opinion, that we aught to have built as many armed Vessels on the Lakes as would have commanded them—We have more interest in them than the British Nation, and can build them Vessels with more convenience—If however there is no intention of the kind, that communication must be abandoned, untill we take possession of the Canadas — — —

The army which marches into the Country, must open roads, thro' the willderness, and the supplies of provisions, and whatever else, may be necessary must pass by land, thro' the State of Ohio — — —If the conquest of the Canadas is the object of the government, they will there have an Army, in a proper situation to commence the operations, and at the same time protect the

defenceless Inhabitants, and controul the Indians within our Territory — — —The answer probably may be, it is more expedient to leave the Michigan Territory to its fate, and direct the force against Montreal. This will prevent all communication by the St Lawrence with upper Canada, and it must of course surrender—In this expectation, I think it probable, there would be a disappointment. If a force is not sent, sufficient to oppose the british force, which may be collected at Amherstburg, and its vicinity, Detroit, Michillmackanac, and Chicago, must fall — — the Inhabitants must once more change their allegiance, and the Indians become the exclusive friends and Allies of the King, their great Father — — — In the Garrisons at these places, they will find large quantities of arms, and military Stores of every kind— — —Upper Canada, and our Country, which they will be in the possession, will furnish them with provisions— How then will upper Canada be conquered, by possessing Montreal — — — They will be in the quiet possession of their Country, and a part of ours; and how are they to be approached? You cannot approach them by water, because they command the Lakes —— In approaching them by land, you must pass thro' a willderness, filled with Savages, under british controul, and devoted to british Interest — — — —
The consiquences of such an attempt may probably be best learned, from the history of the Campains in that very Country conducted by Generals, Harmer, St Clair & Wayne . . . .In upper Canada, they have a Governor, who is a Major General in their Army, who commands the regular Troops the Militia, and the Indians —

— — The whole force of the Country is therefore combined under his command, and may be directed to a single point, without any collision — — — From the preceeding statement of facts, & observations, it must be apparent, that Fort Detroit and the settlements in its neighborhood, and likewise Michillimackanac & Chicago, under present circumstances, are in the power of the British, and that their possession of them, would be extremely calamitous to the United States—

In the event of peace with England, I am of the Opinion that the northern frontier ought to be better protected than it is at present—In the event of War, and the object being the reduction of the Provinces of upper & lower Canada, I will submit to your consideration the following. I think it must be evident, that the establishment of an army at Detroit, sufficient, to defend that part of the Country, controul the Indians, and commence offensive operations, on the weakest points of defence of the Enimy, would be an incipient measure indispensibly necessary ——With respect to the other points of Attack, I shall make no observations, as I probably shall have no agency in things.

In considering this subject, I have endeavored to divest myself of all local feelings, and ground my observations and opinions on public considerations alone —— Two things appear to me to be certain —one is, that in the event of War, the Enimy will attempt to take possession of that Country, with a view to obtain the assistance of the Indians, residing in our Territory; and the other is, that under its present circumstances of defence, it will be in their power to do it —— A part of your Army now

recruiting, may be as well supported & disciplined at Detroit, as at any other place—— A force adequate to the defence of that vulnerable point, would prevent a war with the savages, and probably induce the Enimy to abandon the province of Upper Canada, without Opposition —— The naval force on the Lakes, would in that event, fall into our possession, and we should obtain the command of the waters, with out the expence of building such a force —

The British cannot hold upper Canada without the assistance of the Indians, and that assistance they cannot obtain, if we have an adequate force in the situation, I have pointed out ——

There is another consideration very important— It will do more to prevent a general Indian war, with the Indians as far West, & beyound the Mississippi, than any other measure — — — — The Indians cannot conduct a War, without the Assistance of a civilized Nation —— The British establishment at Amherstburg, is the great emporium, from which even the most distant Indians receive their Supplies —— A force at the point I have mentioned, would prevent all communication of the Indians with that Post —— Indeed, sir, in every point of view in which the subject can be considered, it appears to me of the first importance, to adopt the measure ——

I am very respectfully, your
most obedt Servt
Wm Hull

Hon. Wm Eustis, Secretary
Of the departmt of War.

HULL TO [EUSTIS?]

Washington 25th March 1812.

Sir—

In the present situation of the Territory of Michigan, I feel a very strong desire, to be at my post —— I think, I could be usefull in preparing the minds of the Indians for a correct line of conduct, in the event of War — — —

I would suggest two things only.

1st Whether, under the existing state of things, the government would think proper, to give any different instructions, in relation to the Indians, than have heretofore been given?

2d Whether it is expedient to make any other than the usual provision of supplies, to prevent them from joining the standard of the Enimy in the event of War, and to induce them to remain faithfull to the American government?

When I left my family, they expected to return with me to Detroit———Under present circumstances, they will remain in Massachusetts —

As soon as I have received Answers, to the two questions I have proposed, and finished the settlement of my public Accounts, I will proceed with all possible expedition to Detroit, and make the best arrangements in my power, with the Indians; And if my *advice* in the military department at that place will in any degree be usefull it will be cheerfully afforded.

Understanding that I shall have no legitmate right to the command of any part of the military force in the Territory, excepting the small body of Militia called

into actual service, I would suggest the expediency of placing that body under the Orders of the military Officer, who shall have the command, that all collision may be prevented, and the whole force may act in concert — — — — —

It would be a convenience to me to proceed by the way of Massachusetts, for the purpose of making some arrangements for my family, and the settlement of some private concerns—

If however it should be thought, the public service requires my immediate presence in the Territory, I shall cheerfully make those private sacrifices, and proceed in the most direct rout to my station—

I have addressed this letter to you, because a part of it was on the subject of Indian Affairs, and the military arrangements in the Territory. I will thank you to communicate the contents of it to the Secretary of State, from whom I received the sanction of the President to be absent from the Territory.

I am very respectfully your most
Obedt Servt
William Hull

Whistler to Eustis

Fort Detroit 31st March 1812

Sir

I had the honor of receiveing your letter of the 4th instant, it come to hand on the 29th, I shall pay particular attention to your orders as therein mentioned, at this moment I am making all the necessary preperations to

commence tomorrow morning—It will be necessary to have Carriges made for the Guns, as there are not a sufficient number and those that are here are unfit for use particularly for the 24 pounders

Sir I have the Honor to be
very respectfully
Your Humb Servt
J. Whistler Capt

The Honorable
Secretary of War

Eustis to Hull

War Department
Sir April 9, 1812

By Instructions from the President I request that you will repair with as little delay as may be to Detroit and take command of the Troops & Stations within the Territory of Michigan & at Chicago & fort Wayne. A detachment of Regular Troops under Captain Hughes who will be joined by the Recruits at Pittsburg the 4th Regiment who are ordered to halt at Dayton or Staunton in Ohio, together with a Detachment of Volunteers & Militia from Ohio, will also be under your Command.—You will adopt such measures with the Chiefs & the several Tribes of Indians, as in your judgment may appear to be best calculated to secure the peace of the Country.—

Very Respectfully yours
(Signed) W Eustis.

Br General
Wm Hull

Hull to Eustis

On the Ohio, Opposite Marietta, 3d of
Sir— May 1812. 6 oclock in the morning.

I am proceeding with all possible expedition to Cincinnati— —Seven days ago, 240 volunteers descended the River from this place——I understand Governor Meigs has marched the Volunteers, raised at and in the neighbourhood of Chilocthe, to Dayton the place of Rendezvous— — — — I have heard nothing as yet of the 4th Regt — — — —I hope to meet them at Dayton — — —

I met with Robert T. McCabe, an Ensign in the 1st Regt at Pittsburg— He is now with me, and commands the 40 Recruits, on board my boats — — — —From the best information I have obtained, the whole number of 12,00, will be in readiness, and principally Volunteers — —The State of Ohio has exhibited a noble example—

Respectfully
Wm Hull

Hon. Wm Eustis S.D.W.

P.S. I do not stop here, even to visit my old revolutionary Friends — —

Attwater to Eustis

Honbl William Eustis
Secretary at War—
Sir,

Territory of Michigan.
Secretary's Office
Detroit May 5 th 1812.

By your letter of the 6th of March last you authorised me to call into actual service should circumstances occur

to render it necessary for the defence of this Territory four companies of Militia. I have called out two, the situation of this country is such that it is necessary that some provision should be made to pay them as it is injurious to the U. States to purchase what is necessary for the troops on credit and no arrangement being made I have to request that at the expiration of this quarter you will direct them to be paid and by whom; it is probable that the other two companies will be called into service soon— I frequently hear of Murder's being committed by Indians in this Territory and in other parts of the N.W. frontiers, and from the conduct of the British to the Indians making every exertion to induce them to assist them if we have war there is danger, spies are often heard of from the British ammunition furnished the savages—

I am in hopes we shall soon have a reinforcement for this and other parts of the N.W. frontiers—

Respectfully

Your obt H. Servt

Reuben Attwater,

Hull to Eustis

Cincinnati, Ohio, 8th May 1812

Sir—

I arrived yesterday—Governor Meigs is at Dayton, organizing the volunteers assembled at that place—Five hundred marched from here, this morning for Dayton— The whole number has been raised—Ohio has exhibited

an example highly honorable, and worthy of imitation—Volunteers are seen in the ranks, holding the first civil and military Offices in the State—The conduct of Governor Meigs in calling this detachment into service, is highly meritorious—I shall remain here a day or two, by which time it is expected, he will return—On the 12th of April, the 4th Regt was at Vincennes—I have this morning sent an express to the commanding officer, with orders to march immediately, if he has not commenced his march, — —

There is not more good powder here, than will make twenty thousand cartriges — — — I have this morning directed the military Agent to send an express to Lexington, with orders to purchase three thousand pounds, and have it sent here immediately—From all the information which can be collected, respecting the Indians, it is expected, they will assemble in hostility, and endeavor to annoy the Army, on its march to Detroit — — — — I shall endeavor to establish such a line of march, battle, and encampment, and take such general preventions as I hope will prevent them from obtaining any advantages — — — As our intercourse by Lake Erie, will be uncertain, it will be necessary for me to make arrangements, to command the communication by Land, from Detroit to the State of Ohio, in order to render our supplies certain—

From Baltimore to this place, I was sixteen days— It is between eight and nine hundred Miles — — —It is a pleasure to me, to inform you, that I have been received here with great attention, and the Volunteers have expressed much satisfaction that they are to be command-

ed by an old revolutionary Officer— I have stated this fact, for no other purpose, than because I know it will be gratefully received by you & the government—I am very respectfully

Your most obedt Servt
William Hull

Hon. Wm Eustis S.D. war.

Hull to Eustis

Cincinnati 13th May 1812

Sir,

Governor Meigs is now here. We shall go to Dayton tomorrow or the next day. I have not yet heard from Boyd's Regt. It will probably be a week or ten days, before Capt. Hughes arrives. I have desired the Governor to make a complete organization of the militia, before I take the command of them.

The detachment of troops, which attended me from Pittsburg are now employed in making cartriges . Doctor Richard Allison, who was the chief surgeon of Gen Waynes army and who is the most respectable physician in the Country, has been employed by Gov Meigs, to prepare the Medicine, and attend as the surgeon to the volunteers. He is not willing to leave his practice, for the emolument of a Regimental surgeon . The Volunteers will be very much disappointed if he should not attend them. An Hospital, probably, will be necessary at Detroit. Gov Meigs has written to you on the subject. As soon a I take the command of the army, I

shall make such a disposition, as will give the best security to the Frontier and send speeches to all the northern nations of Indians, stating the object of the expedition, and the line of conduct it will be their duty to pursue. I hope and feel a confidence that no considerations will induce you to countermand the orders to the 4th Regt. Without that Regt. I have no troops of any consequence but Militia. When I take command of the army, I shall appoint some person to Act as Quarter Master, and it will be necessary, and most convenient to provide funds at the bank at Pittsburg, subject to my draft for the necessary expences.

I have drawn no bills on the War department. Governor Meigs has hitherto provided for all the expences. It will likewise be necessary that arrangements should be made for the pay of these troops —

In a command similar to the one confided to me, you will be sensible money will be necessary for various contingent expences, such as Guides, spies expresses and confidential characters.

I wish you likewise to deposit at the same place about four thousand dollars for the ordinary expences of the Indian dept. for the year 1812. Near half of the year has expired, and the expences have been incurred for the blacksmiths Interpreters &c &c They will want their money the moment I arrive at Detroit. Pittsburg will be the most convenient place for the deposit of all monies, which will be necessary for me.

I am very respectfully
Your most Obt Servt
William Hull

Honble William Eustis

Hull to Eustis

Cincinnati May 17th 1812

Sir,

Governor Meigs is now at Dayton—completing the organization of the volunteers — The whole are now there excepting a troop of Cavalry, which will join them in a day or two — It was my intention to have gone on with him. He however expressed a desire to complete his arrangements in such manner as to be ready to deliver up his command to me on my first arrival—my express has not returned from Vincennes, I expect him to day or tomorrow. The Regt had not marched on the 25th April — Capt Hughes company has not arrived. They will probably be here in two or three days. If the Regt. and Hughes company do not arrive by the time the volunteers are prepared, I shall proceed on without them, tho' very reluctlently—as these delays have been occasioned by no neglect of mine, if disagreeable consequences should follow from a seperation of the force, I shall not consider myself as responsible. If on the return of the express, the Regt does not march, I shall arrest the commanding officer, and send my orders to the next in command, unless I should be informed that you have contermanded the original order, which I presume cannot be the case —Capt Hughes has yet likewise to explain to me the cause of his delay. The whole frontier settlements are in a state of alarm on account of the Indians—— We are making the best possible arrangements for their security — Inclosed is the copy of a

speech which I have prepared for the several nations of Indians and it will be sent to each nation as soon as I can find suitable Interpreters to explain it. It will soon be followed by another on the particular subject of their connection and intercourse with the Brittish Posts in Upper Canada Gen. Taylor the military agent has made and is still making every necessary preperation for this Army, and there is no man in this part of the Country so well calculated for the purpose. You will find in him a most useful officer in the department in which he now acts— I have made this statement, as well to satisfy you of the expediency of availing yourself of his services, as a tribute of justice due to his character— A Corps to consist of about twenty five men mounted, best acquainted with the situation of this wilderness and the Indians, a part of them to understand the Indian language, to be employed as Rangers, Guides and spies, will be indispensably necessary, with some suitable man to command them— An army never marched through this country without such characters— I shall employ as many as will be necessary— I have made this statement because I have no other orders, than to take the Command of the army, and march them to Detroit, and I wish to incur no expence without authority

I am respectfully your
Most Obt Servt
Wm Hull

Honble William Eustis

Eustis to Hull

Copy.

War Department
May 23d 1812.

Sir,

Your Letters of the 8th & 13th Instant have been received.—

Dr. Josiah Foster, late Surgeon of the 4th Regiment has been appointed as Hospital Surgeon, and is now on his way to Detroit—

Ten thousand Dollars will be deposited to your Credit with the Bank at Pittsburg (6000 on account of contingencies & 4000 on account of the Indian Department—

Very Respectfully &c.
(Signed) W. Eustis.

Br General
Wm Hull
Dayton

Hull to Eustis

Camp Meigs, on Mad River; 3 miles from
Dayton,—26th May 1812.

Sir

Having frequently written to Augustus Porter, and to his agents, notifying him of the quantity of Provisions which will be wanted for this Army, after the 1st of June, and having received no answer, or any information that he is preparing to make the supplies; I have Con-

tracted with John H. Piatt & Co.—the most efficient men in this Country, for the whole month of June.——
They have contracted for the same price, as is stipulated in Porters contract, with an allowance for transportation from Locimies.—— They could not procure the provisions, without an advance of $8000, for which sum I have drawn eight setts of Bills on you, for $1,000 each.———
These were the best terms I could make and Governor Meigs advised me to adopt the measure. Inclosed, is a Copy of the Contract.———Yesterday, Governor Meigs delivered over to me, the command of the volunteers:—
Inclosed is his speech on the occasion.——— The 4th regt and Hughe's Company, have not arrived—

I am very respectfully,
Your most obt Servt
Wm Hull.

Hon: Wm Eustis.
Secty Depart of War.

Governor Meigs to the Ohio Volunteers

[Enclosure in Hull to Eustis, May 26]

HEAD-QUARTERS

Camp on the Banks of Mad River,
May 25, 1812.

Officers and Soldiers of the First Army of Ohio,

COLLECTED suddenly and rapidly from various parts of the state, you have manifested a zeal worthy the character of a free people. You will soon be completely organized, and I trust that harmony will forever con-

tinue. Already you have made considerable advances in discipline: You will improve: it will soon become easy, familiar, and agreeable. *Subordination* is the soul of discipline: order, safety, and victory are its results. Honour consists in an honourable discharge of duty, whatever may be the rank. Respect each other according to your stations. Officers, be to your men as parents to children: Men, regard your officers as fathers. You will soon march. My Heart will always be with you. The prayers of all good citizens will attend you.

By direction of the President of the United States, I have so far organized and marched you: in his name I thank you.

I feel a great satisfaction in knowing, that you are to be placed under the command and guidance of Brigadier General Hull, a distinguished officer, of revolutionary experience; who being Superintendant of Indian Affairs, and *Chief Magistrate* of the Territory to which you are destined, was happily selected for the service. His influence and authority *there*, will enable him to provide for your convenience.

I pray that each may so conduct, that when you return to the embraces of your friends and relations, they may be proud to salue you, as *one* who had, honourably, belonged to the First Army of Ohio. The Second Army is organizing, and will follow if necessary.

Our frontiers *must* be protected from savage barbarity, our *rights* maintained, and our *wrongs* avenged.

Go then! fear not! be strong! quit yourselves like men, and may the GOD of ARMIES be your shield and buckler.

R. J. Meigs, *Governor of Ohio.*

Eustis to Hull

War Department
May 29th 1812.

Sir

Mr Attwater acting Governor of the Michigan Territory in your absence, has reported to this Department that he has called out two Companies of Militia.—On your arrival at Detroit you will judge of the necessity of keeping these Troops in Service, & act accordingly.—The pay master of the Army will transmit funds & Instructions for paying them.—

Very Respectfully
(Signed) W. Eustis.

Br General
Wm Hull
Detroit

Hull to [Eustis?]

Staunton, 3d June, 1812,

Sir

I arrived with the Army, at this place, yesterday.—The waters of the Miami are now so low, that it is impossible for the Boats to ascend with the provisions and Stores, to Lorimies———They have stopped six miles above this.—

I have consulted this morning, with the commanding Officers of Regiments, and they are clearly of the opinion, that we shall arrive at the foot of the rapids several days sooner, by taking the rout of Urbanna, than the one originally contemplated—Another consideration has in-

fluenced me on the subject, —— In the event of war with England, we must depend on the State of Ohio, for supplies for this Army, the rout we have now adopted, is the one made use of at present, for the transportation of provisions to Detroit, and in marching thro', the Army will repair the Road ——It is the safest, nearest, and most contiguous to the productive part of the state — I have heard nothing from A. Porter Esqr the Contractor, had I not contracted with Piatt and Co, the army would have been without provisions.—I am happy to inform you, that I have received reports, already, from five or six Indian Villages, (since my Speech was communicated.) more favourable than I had reason to expect —The Chiefs are now on their way to visit me, and the Frontiers have already become tranquil—I have not heard, but presume, the 4th Regt and Hughe's Company have arrived at Cincinnati —— This unfortunate delay has been attended with one advantage.—The discipline of Army—I am happy as yet in my Command—the most perfect harmony prevails, and the army is improving in discipline—

I am very respectfully,
Your Obt Servt. Servt—[sic]
W Hull

Hull to Eustis

Sir, Urbanna 9th June 1812.

On the 7th ist. the Army arrived at this place. Captain Manary's Company of Rangers, have built a Block house, twenty miles forward on our rout to the foot of

the Rapids — — — — I have pushed forward one hundred and fifty men to repair the Roads— — and the whole Army will march tomorrow morning.

I have appointed Genl James Taylor to perform the duties of Quarter Master Genl to this Army —— Lieutt Thomas Jessup of the 7th Regt (by the consent of Coll Russell) the Brigade Major — — — — Doctr Edwards, who is the Surgeon of Coll Findlay's Regt, to take the charge of the medical Department—— And Coll Robert Wallace, an Aid De Camp to Govr Meigs, — — an additional Aid de Camp———— In the command of a separate army, situated as this is, it is impossible for one Aid de Camp to perform all the duties. Coll Wallace is a young gentleman of excellent character and Talents— — and this situation for him, was the only request which Governor Meigs made———I Know of no law, giving him compensation, but hope some mode will be devised for the purpose The compensation of Genl Taylor, and Doctr Edward——is likewise to be determined.———— I expect the 4th Regt will join the army this day—— It is now near three weeks since Captn Hughes' Company left Pittsburg, and I have no account of their arrival at Cincinnati—— I shall not wait a moment for them————the more information I obtain, the better I am satisfied, that the rout I am now about to take, on every account, is to be preferred ———It will be only eighty miles from Manary's Blockhouse, to the foot of the Rapids; where I shall establish a Post——From the Blockhouse, to the foot of the Rapids, is an Indian Country———and we have by no former Treaties, any right of way in this direction——— Yesterday I held a Council with all the principal Chiefs,

who reside in the Country in the center of my encampment——twelve principal Chiefs were present——Inclosed is an agreement, containing their consent, that the Army should march through——It was unanimous ————Three Block houses, now between Manarys and the Foot of the Rapids, will establish a Cordon of Posts on the road, within twenty miles of each other—— This road approaches the richest and most productive part of the State of Ohio, for Beef, Pork, flour &c and in the event of war with England it will be indispensibly necessary———

It is my Calculation to arrive at Detroit by the first of July——The Spirit and Animation, the regularity and order——and indeed the discipline and Military appearance of this Army are an honor to our Country——Yesterday a review took place and we were honored with the Company of Governor Meigs and all the Indian Chiefs.——Forty Days from this time, I have appointed a general Indian Council at Brownstown———I expect Tecumseth, and the other Chiefs from the Wabash, and the Delawares from white River. I hope I shall be able to conquer the Indians by Justice and humanity——If this cannot be done, I am prepared for the other alternative————

I have hardly been in an house since I took the field, I yet enjoy good health and the most perfect harmony prevails in the Army

I am very respectfully
Your most obt Servtf
W Hull

Hon Wm Eustis
Secty ofthe Dept of War——

Eustis to Hull

Copy.

War Department
June 10th 1812.

Sir,

Your Letters of May 26th & June 3d have been received.——Your arrangements for securing Supplies for the Troops are approved.——Circumstances have newly arrisen which make it necessary you should force your march to Detroit with all possible Expedition——The highest confidence is reposed in your discretion zeal & perseverance——

Very Respectfully
(Signed) W. Eustis.——

Br. General
Wm Hull

Eustis to Hull

Copy
Circular.

War Department
June 11th 1812.

Sir,

As a last effort to preserve peace & to save from Destruction his Red Children, the President has been pleased to appoint special Commissioners to be sent out immediately from Vincennes to hear any Representations which they may desire to make, & to communicate to the Indians the intention & final determination of the Government towards them. You will therefore immediately take the necessary measures & invite the Chiefs

and head men of the Several Tribes within your agency to meet in Council with these Commissioners and with the Chiefs of other Tribes within the Territories of Illinois Indiana & Michigan & the State of Ohio at Piqua Town in the State of Ohio on the [?] day of August next ensuing.

Very Respectfully &c

Br. General
Wm Hull

(Signed) W. Eustis.

Hull to Eustis

Sir, Urbanna 11th June 1812.

The fourth Regt did not arrive until yesterday, the whole Army Marched a mile from the Encampment to meet them—As the Regt passed the Army, the honors of a salute were paid—and the whole marched in a body to the Encampment—The 4th Regt at the head of the Column of Infantry, preceded by the Cavalry — — — — A triumphal Arch had previously been erected near the Encampment with the American Eagle displayed on the Key stone of the Arch and on one side inscribed in Capitals *Tipacanoe*——on the other side *Glory*—When the Cavalry approached the Arch they Opened, and the 4th Regt passed under it—All the other Troops passed on the outside hoping soon to be entitled to similar honors—You doubtless will remember, that you desired me when at Washington, to appoint Doctr Abraham Edwards to do the duty of Surgeon of the 4th Regt—if no appointment should have been made on their arrival———— They had no Surgeon, and I have made

the appointment, to continue untill the pleasure of the President and Senate is known— — —If the Doctor obtains this appointment, he will resign his captaincy, he is an excellent man, and will at prescent, superintend the Medical Department of this Army———— I have likewise, at the particular request of Lieutt Coll Miller of the 4th U. S. Regt—directed an Ensign Phillips of this State appointed in the additional Army of twenty five thousand, to join the 4th Regt and do duty untill further Orders— — — —Coll Miller represented the Regt as having no Ensign,—and a deficiency of Subalterns of other Grades— — —He is a very Ambitious young man—and very desirous of being in a situation to become acquainted with Service— — — —Whatever you direct on the Subject shall be immediately done— — — — — —I am under the necessity of waiting a day or two longer than I intended on account of the fourth Regt—they are a fine body of men—but worn down with fatigue———

Seven hundred men, under the Command of Coll McArthur, are now advanced, to open and repair the Roads ——The Guns &c received at Newport were of so bad a quality, that I have been under the necssity of having with the Army a travelling Forge— — —I have made a detachment from the Army, of Artificers and appointed a Captain Thorp who was in that service under Genl Knox during the revolutionary war,——to [page or pages missing] gone to lay it out————

I regret that the proceedings of the Indian Council cannot at the present moment, be transcribed and forwarded — — —they were perfectly satisfactory one of the old Chiefs Observed, that he thanked the Great Spirit, that I had asked them for the Road that they granted the

request, with the most perfect freedom, and hoped if we met with any Enemies, we should be victorious over them

---

I am now a little indisposed, having a slight fever and some cold but I am under the operation of medicine, and hope tomorrow to be well. The Army shall not however be detained one moment on my account—I hope I should not have required a seasoning——
When Hughes' Company joins, and about 150 Volunteers now on their march this Army will Amount to about 2000, non commissioned officers and privates A particular return shall be made in a few days

I am sir, very respectfully
Your most obt Servt.

Hon Wm Eustis. W Hull
Depart of War

12th June. The Army is now paraded for exercise, & in my [?] I only wish you was here to see them—Their appearance & discipline does honor to our Country—unwell as I am, I shall mount my horse & go on the field—

James Miller to Eustis

Sir, Urbana June 12th 1812.

Governor Miegs of the State of Ohio, has been pleased to Commission three full Colonels to Command the three Volunteer Regiments raised in said State, which in my opinion is contrary to the Laws of the Union, and as it interferes materially with my Rank as an officer of the line, and feeling myself agrieved; I made application to

Brigadier General Hull for redress, a copy of whose answer I have the honor to enclose with the Comments of Governor Miegs on the Same, and his reasons for so commissioning them. I am extremely sorry that any thing of the kind should occur at this time, but as it is, I feel myself Compelled through you respectfully to solicit redress, by your decision or that of the President of the U. States, it is Sir a question of rank which I consider of great importance to an officer especially in time of impending War, and in my opinion the officer who will tamely Submit to relinquish his own just title to rank, will never assert the right or avange the wrongs of his Country with your decision Sir, or that of His Excelly the President of the U. S. I shall be perfectly Satisfied.

I have the honor to be Sir, with the
highest respect your most obedt Servt
JAMES MILLER Lt Col 5th Infy

Honoble Wm Eustis Esqr
Secretary of War.

HULL TO MILLER

[Enclosure in Miller to Eustis, June 12]

Sir, Urbana June 11th 1812.

Immediately after I had the pleasure of seeing you yesterday I had an interview with Governor Meigs on the subject of the rank of the Commanding Officers of the three Volunteer Regiments of the State of Ohio—

His Excellency has been pleased to Communicate to me the following as the Grounds, which made it his duty to grant them Commissns as Colonels.

The Constitution article 5th Section 3d provides that Colonels shall be elected by the Majors, Captns and Subalterns of the Regiment—

By the Section of the act for disciplining the Militia passed 1809 "when two Battalions Volunteer they shall elect their Colonel."

By the 2d Sectn of the Act to amend the Militia Act passed January 30th 1811, the Militia of this State shall be officered as follows, "To each Regiment one Lieut Colo Commandant.—

By the 15th Section, the fourth Section and fifth article part of the Third Section, and part of the Twenty third Section of the act originally passed are repeated, leaving the Section respecting Volunteer Corps untouched."

The Governor had the authority of organizing this Corps, and I have no other power, than to receive them as appointed by him, and give the Officers the rank to which their Commissions entitle them

If this Statement should not be Satisfactory to you, it is my opinion you can Serve with honor, until the pleasure of the President is known.

I am very respectfully
Your Obt Sevt

Lieut Colo Miller Signed. W Hull

Hull to Eustis

Sir— Urbanna 13th June 1812.

Lieutt Coll Miller of the 4th U. S. Regiment has stated to me, reasons, and produced documents for the sup-

port of them, satisfactory, for not arriving at Dayton, with the 4th U. S. Regt at the time I had reason to expect—
He appears to be very much dissatisfied with the rank—which Governor Meigs has given the Officers, commanding the three Reigments of Volunteers of this State—Inclosed is a Copy of a letter I addressed to him on the subject—The question seems to be whether these officers are Commissioned according to law— — — — — —I receive this Army as Organized by the constituted authorities, and can only give the Officers command according to their Commissions in Conformity to the Military regulations — — — He feels himself aggrieved, and wishes your decision or that of the president on the Subject — — — — I am sure I have no authority to interfere —and it is not for me to determine whether the President has or not—

I am very respectfully
Your most obt Servt
Hon. Wm Eustis—— W Hull

Eustis to Hull

Copy.

War Department
Sir, June 16th 1812.

Should any munitions of war or the Goods calculated exclusively for the Indians which is now at British Garrisons on Lake Huron be brought within the Limits of the United States, I am instructed by the President to direct you to receive them, from the Comm. Officer of the Cus-

toms, or other Agents, & hold them in safe keeping subject to the further action of the Government.——

Very Respectfully

Br General
Wm Hull
Detroit.

(Signed) W. Eustis

Daniel Baker to Eustis

Sir, Fort Detroit June 16th 1812.

I have the satisfaction to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 19th ultimo, and to signify my acceptance of the Appointment of Assistant Deputy Quarter Master; and have the honor to be, with the greatest respect and consideration,

Sir, your Ob. St
Daniel Baker
Lieut 1st Infy

Hon. William Eustis
Secretary of War

Hull to Eustis

Camp at Solomon's town, 75 miles
from the foot of the Rapids 18th June 1812.

Sir,

The army arrived at this place last evening—I have opened the road fifteen miles forward, and built a strong Blockhouse—At this blockhouse are advanced eight hundred of the army, under the command of Colo McArthur

—There is another strong blockhouse five miles back— We are now in the Indian Country, one mile from a village of Wyandots and Shawanese — — Fifteen principal Chiefs from different Villages will join the army this morning and proceed with us — —There is every appearance of friendship among all the Indians at present. Hughes detachment I expect will join the army today — — —Likewise three Companies of Volunteers, all in complete Uniform — — —This is all the force I expect — — —This place is about one hundred and twenty five miles from Cincinnati— The army is in good health and spirits — — —My order of march is in two columns with strong front and rear guards — — — The Columns flanked by the Riflemen and Cavalry, where the ground will admit — —The baggage, provisions &c between the columns — — —The army has been practised from the two columns to form two lines, either in front rear, or on either flank— — —or to form a square — — My order of encampment at night is a square facing outward, with all the baggage in the center — —The mounted spies are employed in examining every part of the Country, eight or ten miles in advance and on the flanks. In an army composed of materials like this, some difficulties are naturally to be expected.

The morning we marched from Urbanna papers were found on the trees, warning me not to march the army untill they were paid — —I called the principal officers together, and stated what had taken place . . It seems the Officers had promised the men, an advance for the years clothing, which was stated at forty or fifty dollars a man — — They had only received sixteen — — — I informed the Officers the army would march in any event

— —When the Assembly beat one company only refused to obey the order — — — A detachment of the 4th Regt was immediately marched towards the Company and on its appearance the Company immediately obeyed the order — — —Three of the principal mutineers were immediately confined, and the next day I ordered a General court martial, which sentenced them to have one half of their heads shaved, their hands tied behind their backs, marched round the lines with a "label" "Tory" between their shoulders, and drummed out of the Army — — —After this sentence was published the prisoners appeared remarkably penitent and considered the punishment worse than death itself. Their officers and friends pledged themselves to me for their future good conduct and under all circumstances I considered it expedient to pardon them — — —Every thing now is perfectly quiet, and the army are in high spirits and satisfied — — —

Mr Piatt & Cos contract will end the 1st of July and not having received any information from Augustus Porter Esq the Contractor, I have authorized Piatt & Co to provide ten days provision, more than to the last of June We shall probably arrive at the foot of the Rapids by the 1st of July — — —Circumstances however may take place to prevent it, and I consider it my duty to make such provision as to render a disappointment almost impossible — — — For this purpose I was obliged to draw a bill on you for one thousand dollars of this date — — —

I am respectfully
Your most Obt Servt

Hon William Eustis W Hull

Eustis to Hull

War Department
June 18th 1812.

Copy.

Sir:

War is declared against Great Britain. You will be on your guard--proceed to your post with all possible expedition, make such arrangements for the defence of the Country, as in your judgment may be necessary, and wait for futher orders.

Very respectfully &c
(Signed) Wm Eustis.—

Brig General
William Hull

Daniel Baker to Eustis

Fort Detroit June 22nd 1812.

Sir

Your letter of the 3rd instant I have received, and now inclose a Bond and Certificate conformably to the provisions of the Act establishing a Quarter Master's Department.—

I have the honor to be,
with the greatest respect,
Sir, you Ob. Servt
Daniel Baker
Captain 1st Infy

Hon. William Eustis
Secretary of War

Eustis to Hull

Copy.— War Department
June 24th 1812

Sir,

By my Letter of the 18. Instant you were informed that War was declared against Great Britain. Herewith inclosed you will receive a Copy of the act & of the Presidents Proclamation, and you are authorized to commence offensive operations accordingly.—

Should the force under your Command be equal to the Enterprize, consistant with the Safety of your own post you will take possession of Malden & extend your conquests as circumstances may justify.—

You will not consider yourself authorized to pledge the Government to the Inhabitants of Canada, further than assurances of protection in their persons & property & Rights.—It is also proper to inform you that an adequate force cannot soon be relied on for the Reduction of the Enemies forces below you.—

Very Respectfully &c

Br General (Signed) W. Eustis.
Wm Hull

Hull to Eustis

Camp Necessity near Blanchards
Sir Creek June 24th 1812

The heavy and incessant Rains which have fallen since the army marched from Urbanna have inundated the

Country, and rendered it impossible to make that expedition, which the state of things may require and my own wishes strongly impell—I have opened the road about thirteen miles in advance, and established a Blockhouse —that station is about forty miles from the foot of the Rapids—Five hundred men, are at the Station—The army is now preparing to march and will arrive at the foot of the Rapids, by the 1st day of July—unless prevented by a continuation of the rains—There are now established on this road, five strong block houses—garrisoned principly by the Invalids of the Army— I have stated to you, in my former letters, the importance of this communication—Considering the fatigue to which the army has been subjected—both Officers and Soldiers are in good health, and continue to be animated by a laudable Spirit—

General Brock, the Governor of upper Canada, arrived at Malden on the 14th inst.—with one hundred British Troops—on the 17th he sailed for Fort Erie, in the Queen Charlotte, and it is said he will return with a reinforcement immediately. Large numbers of Indians from all the Northern Nations, are collecting at Amhersburg and at Brown's town opposite the British fort—and like wise on the river huron of Lake Erie—three miles below Browns Town—They now have a constant communication with the British Garrison, and are supplied with provisions and other things, necessary for them. In the event of hostilities—I feel a Confidence that the force under my Command, will be superior to any which can be apposed to it—It now exceeds two thousand, rank and file—I cannot by this conveyance, send an accurate return—It is unnecessary to detail the difficulties I have

to encounter, in marching the Army thro' this wilderness —it is only for me to surmount them.

I am very respectfully
Your most Obedt Servt
W Hull

Hon Wm. Eustis
Secty of the Departt
of War.—

Hull to Eustis

Camp at fort Findlay, on Blanchards Fork, 35 miles from the foot of the Rapids of the Miami, June 26th 1812—

Sir,

I have this moment received your letter of the 18th of June inst—since the army marched from Urbanna, we have had constant and heavy rains—This has rendered the progress of the army slow—since the junction of the whole force, not a moment has been, or shall be lost in advancing to our Post—The road is already opened ten miles in advance—From Urbanna to this place, strong Blockhouses are erected, within twenty miles of each other, to preserve the communication in the event of war. I have placed in them small Garrisons, and left the few sick and invalid, with their arms, medical aid, and all necessary comforts. I suggest to you, whether it would not be expedient to relieve the troops of this army, stationed in the Blockhouses, by the Militia of Ohio—In the event of war it will be necessary to keep up this communication—I have with me a considerable

number of friendly chiefs and head men of the different nations—The Indians, as we progress, appear to be friendly—I hope in three days to be at the foot of the Rapids—The army is in high spirits, and animated by a laudable zeal—There exists a perfect harmony—McArthurs Blockhouse stands on the scioto, and the River is navigable for boats to that station—From that station to Fort Findlay the distance is about twenty seven miles, and from this place there is a boat navigation, by the Miami to Detroit— It is my intention to build another Blockhouse on the carrying river about half the distance between this and the foot of the Rapids—The friendly Indians are now making canoes, and will carry a part of the baggage of the army from this to the foot of the Rapids—

Inclosed is the most correct return that can be made of the army under present circumstances

I am respectfully,
Your mo: Obt:
W Hull

Hon
William Eustis

ATTWATER TO EUSTIS

Secretary's Office
Detroit June 30th 1812

Hon. William Eustis
Secretary at War—
Sir,

It is not in my power to inform you any thing more respecting the hostile intention of the Indians than I did

in my last except I frequently hear of their committing murder on the other frontiers, they all appear friendly which call upon me and for two or three weeks have held a council with them almost every day, yesterday Ni-quigan Nephew to the Bastard arrived, he lives within forty or fifty miles of Michilimackinac and sent by Uncle to inform me his people was all peaceable and was determined to remain so, and attend to the advice they received from their Great Father the President. he also observd those that visted their great Father was very much gratified to receive friendly treatment and good advice—It is reported that a large number of Indians are collected at Malden, I have no doubt but that they receive Arms, Ammunition &c from the British who are making every preparation for War I hear Gov. Hull is within eighty miles of this place having a Road to cut retards his March, when I last heard from him he and Army in good health and spirits.—

With respect
Your Obt Servt
Reuben Attwater

[Endorsed]

Detroit June 30, 1812
R. Attwater states that the
Indians are quiet—
Gov. Hull is within 80 miles
—English are making great
preparations.
files.
Recd July 17. 1812

Hull to Eustis

River Raisin, 3d July 8 Oclock
in the Morning——

Sir

The Army is now on its march to Detroit from this place—We expect to be met at the River Huron by Tecumseh, and probably fifteen hundred Indians— The British armed vessels, have taken a number of our vessels with provisions from Black rock—and a Vessel which was sent from the foot of the rapids with a part of the Baggage of this Army— He sailed before I received your letter informing me of a declaration of war —I need not tell you that every exertion will be made for the safety of this Country, and the honor of the American Arms—

I am very respectfully,
Your most Obt Servt
W Hull.

Hon Wm Eustis

Hull to Eustis

Head Quarters
Detroit July 7th 1812

Sir,

I have the honor to inform you that the army under my command arrived at this place on the 5th inst. At the Foot of the Rapids of the Miami, some part of the public stores, and the Officers private baggage were put

on board a small vessel to be transported to Detroit. At that time I had not received your letter informing me of the declaration of War— The Vessel was taken on her passage and carried into Amherstburg: Inclosed are copies of two letters, one which I addressed to Colo St George commanding at Amherstburg, the other his answer—

The greatest possible exertions have been made to induce the Indians to join the Brittish Standard— The tomahawk stained with blood, has been presented to all the nations in due form—The approach of this army has prevented many of them from accepting it—For a number of Weeks they have issued about two thousand rations per day—From the best information their numbers are decreasing—

The patience and perseverance with which this army has sustained a march, attended with difficulties, uncommon in their nature, does honor to themselves and their Country—

The Brittish have established a Post at Sandwich opposite Detroit—The Militia of Detroit have manifested a laudable and patrotic spirit—

In your letter of the 18th June you direct me to adopt measures for the security of the country, and wait for further orders—I regret that I have not a larger latitude —

I am very respectfully
Your most obt Servt:
W Hull

Hon
William Eustis

Hull to St. George

[Enclosure in Hull to Eustis, July 7]

(Copy)

Camp Spring Hill 3 miles below
Detroit July 6th 1812

Sir

Since the arrival of my army at this encampment (5 oclock P.M. yesterday) I have been informed that a number of discharges of artillery and of small arms, have been made by the Militia of the Territory from this shore into Sandwich. I regret to have received such information. The proceeding was unauthorized by me. I am not disposed to make war against private property or to authorize a wanton attack upon unoffending individuals—

I would be happy to learn whether you consider private property a proper subject of siezure and detention —I allude to the baggage of Officers particularly—

The bearer of this is Colo Cass, an officer commanding one of my Regts—He is accompanied by Capt Hickman— He is in possession of my Ideas on the subject of an exchange of prisoners and is authorized to enter into stipulation for that purpose.

(signed) Wm Hull
B. Gen U.S. army

Colo St. George or the Officer Comg.
Fort Malden

St. George to Hull

[Enclosure in Hull to Eustis, July 7]

Copy.

Sir Amherstburgh 6th July 1812—

I am honored with your letter of this days date. I perfectly coincide with you in opinion respecting private property, and any wanton attack upon unoffending individuals, and am happy to find what I was certain would be the case, that the aggression in question was unauthorized by you—

In respect to the property of officers not on board vessel at the time of Capture, I must be guided by the custom of war in like cases, in justice to the Captors, and shall always be ready to meet your wishes respecting an exchange of prisoners, when I receive orders on that subject from my government.

I have the honor to be with
great respect
Sir
Your most obt Humb

(signed) J.B. St. George
Lieut Colo
Comg: at Amherstburg

Brig Genl Hull

Hull to Eustis

Sir Detroit 9th July 1812.

I have recd your letter of the 24th of June—The army under my command arrived here the 5th of July inst—

Every effort has been & is still making by the British to collect the Indns under their Standard—They have a large number—I am preparing boats, and shall pass the River in a few days—The British have established a Post directly opposite to this place—I have confidence, in dislodging them, & being in possession of the opposite bank—

I have little time to write—Everything will be done, which it is possible to do—

I am very respectfully your
most obedt servt
Wm Hull

Hon. Wm Eustis. Secy
D War

The British command the water, & the savages—I do not think the force here equal to the reduction of Amherstburg—You therefore must not be too sanguine—

Hull to Eustis

Detroit, July 10th 1812,

Sir

Mr Beard, Augustus Porter's agent has informed me —that in consequence of the Lake being closed against us—he cannot furnish the necessary supplies of Provisions. I have therefore authorized Mr John H. Piatt of Cincinnati (now here) to furnish two hundred thousand rations of flour, and the same quantity of Beef—I have engaged to give him 5 per centum—on the amount of purchases and pay his necessary expences—and the expence of transportation. He will either hire or purchase

pack horses to transport the flour—I shall draw on you for the money necessary for this purpose—The Communication must be secured, or this Army will be without provisions. Troops will be absolutely necessary on the road—to protect the provisions—This must not be neglected, if it is—this Army will perish by Hunger—

I am very respectfully,
Your most Obt Servt
W Hull.

Hon. Wm Eustis

Hull to Eustis

Sir Detroit 10th July 1812

I have this day drawn bills of exchange on you for thirty thousand Dollars in favor of John Piatt, in order to fulfill the contract, made by Augustus Porter, to supply the army with provisions, David Beard Esqr. the said Augustus Porters Agent having now but a small quantity of provisions, on hand, & having stated to me, that the Lake being closed, he cannot furnish the necessary Supplies—

On the payment of these bills, the future supply of this Army will depend—Mr. Piatt stated to me that thirty thousand Dollars would be necessary to purchase the provisions and provide the means of transporting it—

I am very respectfully, your most
obedt Servt
W Hull

Hon. W Eustis S.D. war
Washington City.

Petition of Blackhall Stephens

Copy

The humble petition of Blackhall Stephens to the Honorable judge of the Supreme Court of Michigan Territory Sheweth that he Blackhall Stephens, a native of Chapelizort in the County of Dublin Kingdom of Ireland, and formerly in the land Service of the King of Great Britain, became a resident about three years of the town of Cincinnati, State of Ohio, and attached to a company of light infantry of that place which company being ordered to Serve for the term of Six months commencing the Second day of May last by the Governor of the State of Ohio to protect the Northern frontier —and in pursuance of Said order marched with the army to Detroit— , that Said Company having Crossed into Canada contrary to his expectation & wishes, Said petitioner having refused to leave the territory of the United States, was put under guard and threatened by his officers to be taken by force, and in consequence of those threats humbly Claims the protection of the civil authority at your hands—

Detroit july 12, 1812.

(signed) Blackhall Stephens.

Arrangement made with the officer Commanding the Company, relieving the Complaint.

July 12 1812.

(Signed) Woodward

I Peter Audrain, Clerk of the Supreme Court of the territory of Michigan, do hereby certify the foregoing

to be a true Copy from the original filed in my office; Detroit, 20th of July 1812.

PETER AUDRAIN clk S.C.T.M.

HULL'S PROCLAMATION TO THE INHABITANTS OF CANADA

By WILLIAM HULL, BRIGADIER GENERAL AND COMMANDER OF THE NORTHWESTERN ARMY OF THE UNITED STATES, A PROCLAMATION.

Inhabitants of Canada! After thirty years of Peace and Prosperity, the United States have been driven to Arms, The injuries and aggressions, the insults and indignities of Great Britain have *once more* left them no alternative but manly resistance or unconditional submission. The Army under my command has invaded your Country and the standard of the United states waves on the territory of Canada To the peaceable unoffending inhabitant, It brings neither danger nor difficulty. I come to find enemies not to *make* them. I come to *protect* not to *injure* you.

Separated by an immence ocean and an extensive Wilderness from Great Britain you have no participation in her Councils no interest in her Conduct; You have felt her Tyranny, you have seen her injustice, but I do not ask *you* to avenge the one or to redress the other. The United States are sufficiently powerful to afford you every security consistent with their rights & your expectation, I tender you the invaluable blessings of Civil, Political, & Religious Liberty, and their necessary re-

sults, individual, and General prosperity; That liberty which gave decision to our Councels and energy to our conduct in our struggle for Independence, and which conducted us safely and triumphantly thro' the stormy period of the Revolution.

The Liberty which has raised us to an elevated rank among the Nations of the world and which has afforded us a greater measure of Peace & security wealth and prosperity than ever fell to the Lot of any people.

In the name of my *Country* and by the Authority of my Government I promise you protection to your *persons, property, and rights.* Remain at your homes, pursue your Customary and peaceful avocations, Raise not your hands against your bretheren, Many of our fathers fought for the freedom & *Independence* we now enjoy, Being Children therefore of the same family with us, and heirs to the same heritage, the arrival of an army of Friends must be hailed by you with a Cordial Welcome, You will be emancipated from Tyranny and oppression and restored to the dignified station of freemen. Had I any doubt of eventual success I might ask your assistance but I do not. I come prepared for every Contingency. I have a force which look down all opposition and that force is but the vanguard of a much greater. If contrary to your own interests & the just expectation of my country, you should take part in the approaching contest, you will be considered and treated as enemies and the horrors, and calamities of war will stalk before you.

If the barbarous and Savage policy of Great Britain be pursued, and the savages are let loose to murder our

Citizens and butcher our women and children, this war will be a war of extermination.

The first stroke with the Tomahawk the first attempt with the scalping Knife will be the signal for one indiscriminate scene of desolation, *No White man found fighting by the side of an Indian will be taken prisoner* Instant destruction will be his lot. If the dictates of reason, duty, justice, and humanity, cannot prevail the employment of a force, which respects no rights & Knows no wrong, it will be prevented by a severe and relentless system of retaliation.

I doubt not your courage and firmness; I will not doubt your attachment to + + Liberty. If you tender your services voluntarily they will be accepted readily.

The United States offer you *Peace, Liberty,* and *Security* your choice lies between these, & *War, Slavery,* and *destruction,* Choose then, but choose wisely; and may he who knows the justice of our cause, and who holds in his hands the fate of Nations, guide you to a result the most compatible, with your rights and interests, your peace and prosperity.

(signed) Wm Hull

By the General

A.Q.Null

Cap: 13 U S Regt of Infantry by A.D.C

Headquarters at Sandwich

July 13th 1812

[C 676-p. 168.]

James Taylor to Eustis

Head Quarters
Sandwich Canadia
July 14th 1812

Dear sir

I have the honor to inform you that on the 12th inst in the morning the american Eagle was hoisted on the bank of this province amid the acclimations of our Patriotic little army and the shouts of the Inhabitants of Detroit.

We expected considerable opposition as the British appeared to be very vigilent & brought up several pieces of cannon & appeared to be engaged in planting them on a Breast work which we found they began but did not finish. We commenced our march at Revile and got over in good order in a short time. We found they had abandoned their homes and property in the greatest confusion. Yesterday morning the Militia deserters began to come in & we are informed that they have not more than about 250 of these troops now at Malden about 100 Indians & about 210 regulars, and they said the whole of the Militia & Indians will desert them. I am of the opinion we shall have possession of the whole of upper Cannady without much blood shed. It is thought they were to abandon Malden as they are putting on board the Queen Charlotte a quantity of their stores, but this may be conjecture—

I assure you sir I consider this the proudest period of my life to witness so grand an acquisition to the american Territory. This is a very valuable Country and I hope

it will make us an amend for the injuries we have sustained. This Country far exceeds any Idea I had formed of it I never saw such grass in my life [?] it is more beautiful than I could have conceived. It is [?] & fertile and this vicinity [can be] well cultivated far better than our own side. I hope you will pardon this hasty scrawl, and believe me to be with great respect Dr sir your obed Servt

JAMES TAYLOR

Honble Wm Eustis

HULL TO EUSTIS

Sandwich 14 July 1812

Sir

I have fortified my Camp on the bank of the River, opposite Detroit, and established Batteries on both sides in such manner as to secure the strait—I have detached about two hundred and fifty men up the River Le Trench for the purposes of communicating my proclamation and securing a quantity of provision which are said to belong to the King and also, to give protection to the Contractors Agent in purchasing from the Inhabitants—The Canadian Militia are deserting from Malden in large parties—About Sixty came in yesterday—I send them to their homes, and give them protection—the probability, is, that the greatest part of them will desert in a few days—

The force under my command, and the movement into this province has had a great effect on the Indians—They are daily returning to their Villages—A

very large council is now sitting at Brownstown—The Wyandots are at the head of it—The object is to induce all the Nations to be neutral—I furnish them with provisions—the Crane, Walk-in-the Water—Blackhoof—Blue Jacket &c, are Zealous friends of neutrality—I have great hopes, the object will be effected—I have reason to believe the number of hostile Indians is daily decreasing—The Inhabitants have received my proclamation with great satisfaction, as far as information has been received—I shall march the Army to Malden, as soon as the necessary preparations can be made for the siege. As the British have no naval force above Detroit—and as we now command the River, I shall direct the Brig Adams to be compleated and armed as soon as possible for the purpose of supplying the posts of Michillimackac and Chicago with provisions and the necessary Stores—provided we can obtain them here—I presume she will be placed under my Orders—I wish the opinion of the Government—whether the property of the Northwest Company will be considered as private property, and protected under the proclamation which was founded on your instructions—That Company is undoubtedly a powerful engine of the British Government, in this Country It will require some time to prepare the heavy artillery—the fixed Ammunition and all the necessaries for the Siege—the supply of intrenching tools is very small, and none are to be procured. The Army ramains in good health and generally Animated by a laudable spirit—You must be sensible in the present state of things—my duties are much increased—The Command of the army—the Superintendance of the Indians—and the necessary arrangements with the Inhabitants—both French and English are

subjects solely committed to me—Whatever expence is necessary to procure suitable Characters to assist me in the discharge of these various duties—must be incurred—It shall be as small as is consistent with true Economy—

I am very respectfully
Your Most obt Servt.
W Hull

Hon Wm Eustis. S. D. of war.

W. Piatt to Eustis

Sir, Pittsburgh July 17. 1812

I have the honor to enclose to you an Extract of a letter from a Gentleman at Detroit to his friend at this place. I am acquainted with the Gentleman who gives this information and there can be no doubt of its correctness.

With great respect
I am Sir
Your most obd Sert
W. Piatt Capt
2d Regt Infty

William Eustis Esqr
Secretary at War
Washington City

Conditions at Detroit on July 7

[Enclosure in Piatt to Eustis, July 17, 1812]

Extract of a letter from a gentleman at Detroit to his friend in this place dated 7th July 1812.

When the army came to the foot of the rapids of

Miami River, Gov. Hull not then having received intelligence of the decleration of war, hired a small Sloop, in which he put his baggage and that of most of the officers of the Army, all the hospital stores, his instructions from the war department, his Commission & those of most of the officers of the 4th Regt the Ladies of two officers of said Regiment, Lieut Goodwin and about 30 men, & on the point of sending the pay master with all the publick money; this vessel on passing Malden on thursday, was captured with all its contents, the Ladies, Mrs. Fuller & Goodwin were put on shore at this place the next day, all the others are of course detained—

The news of war excited very great alarm for the safety of the place, the army being too far off to afford us immediate releif; for about a week previous we had intellegence of the Indians assembling in great numbers at Malden; about 300 of the Sacks had come from the Mississippi, Tecumse and a few warriors from the Wabash & many others from different quarters, all believed to be hostile; it was confidently asserted, that from 1000 to 1500 rations were daily issued to them—Beleiving an attack was contemplated either on the army or this place, and most probably the latter, every man capable of bearing arms, was kept on constant duty day & night from thursday untill Sunday evening, when the Army encamped within three miles of the place & relieved our apprehensions—There was about 100 regulars in the Garrison, and the whole of the militia that we could collect did not exceed 400; but I believe every man, was determined, to make up in Bravery what we wanted in numbers—about 100 of the militia were thrown in the Garrison, the others posted in such ad-

vantageous places through the town each having a good firelock & bayonet with plenty of Ammunition, I am confident it would have taken more than double our number to have routed us; If attacked, we expected it to be made either in the night or near day light, this rendered it necessary to keep awake through the whole night, for three nights there was not one of us had our clothes off, and if any one did lay down; it was on his arms; every men saw the necessity of making a determined resistance, & I am confident there was not one but would have done his duty—Yesterday the Ferrymen who had been detained on after crossing the River after the news of the War, were returned under a flag of truce; they had been taken to Malden, and they say, that the Indians have been gradually dispersing from that place for three or four days past; I expect they will have the policy to remain quiet, as they find there is a force now here sufficient to put down all opposition either from them or the British; and I think, such steps will shortly be pursued that we will not hereafter fear any disturbance from them—

A considerable number of the Militia had collected on the opposite shore during two or three days last week, but a few 24 pounders fired at them, soon made them disperse, & since that there is scarcely a man to be seen; it was thought they were preparing to erect batteries to the town, but it is since said that they intend to make no resistance but at Malden

Genl Hull is making preparations to cross the river this evening or to-morrow morning—and it is expected an immediate attack is Contemplated on Malden, the works of that place are not very strong, but they are well

defended with artillery; having I am told forty peices mounted, and about 200 regulars with all the militia they can collect, the number not known; there is no doubt but there will be hard fighting before the place is taken —The Army are all in good health & spirits, and wait with anxiety to be put on the other shore; they are certainly as fine looking men as I ever saw—

Hull to Eustis

Sir Sandwich 19. July—1812.

The Army is encamped directly opposite to Detroit—The Camp is intrenched—I am mounting the 24 pounders, and making every preparation for the siege of Malden —The British force which in numbers was superior to the American (Including Militia and Indians) is daily diminishing—Fifty or Sixty of the Militia have deserted daily—since the American standard was displayed,—and taken protection—They are now reduced to less than one hundred—In a day or two, I expect the whole will desert. Their Indian force is diminishing nearly in the same proportion—I have now a large council, of ten or twelve nations, sitting at Brownstown, and I have no doubt but the result will be that they will remain neutral—The Brig Adams was launched on the 4th July—I have removed her to Detroit under the Cover of the Canon, and shall have her finished and Armed as soon as possible— We shall then command the upper lakes—If you have not a force at Niagara the whole force of the province will be directed against this Army—Every thing as yet is prosperous—Coll McArthur has advanced sixty miles up

the River Le Trench, and taken a considerable quantity of provisions, which had been collected for the British Army—The Enemy's advanced posts have been forced by a detachment under Coll Cass—inclosed is his report —It is all important that Niagara should be invested— all our success will depend on it—I send this Dispatch by Captain Curtis one of Govr Meigs Aid de Camps— [he] is a gentleman of merit, has been some time with the Army, and I refer you to him for particulars. While the three Commanding Officers of the Volunteer regiments, hold Commissions of Colonels, they must be considered as such—or they have no rank—This business must be settled—I have reed no communication from Governor Meigs on the subject. Lt Coll Miller, is very much dissatisfied—In less than a week I hope to commence the siege of Malden—

I am in very great haste,
Your most Obt Servt.
W Hull

Hon. Wm Eustis
Secty Dt of War.

N. B. Capt Curtis has reed $100 from Genl Taylor for his expences &c—

W Hull

Hull to Eustis

Head Quarters of the North-Western Army
Sir, Sandwich July 21. 1812.

When I marched from Urbanna, I proposed a general council of Indians at Brownstown, to be held the be-

ginning of this month. I have held frequent councils with the Chiefs, and my proposition to them was "neutrality". I stated to the most intelligent chiefs, that we had been obliged to engage in War with Great Britain, because she would not permit us to enjoy our neutral rights; that the Indians were not at all interested in the differences between the two governments; but that the British being too weak to cope with us, were using every exertion to engage them on their side, and involve them in the calamities of war;—that we were sufficiently strong, and did not wish to disturb their tranquility by asking their assistance.

I have just received the Result of the Council of nine Nations at Brownstown, counting the "six nations," as *one*. They are unanimous for remaining neutral. The nations are the Ottawas, Chippewas, Pottawatamies, Wyandots, Delawares, Munsees, some Kikapoos, Sacs, and the "Six Nations". Tarhè, or the Crane, Mièrè, or Walk-in-the-water, Blackhoof, Col: Lewis, and the Wolf, have made great exertions to detach the Indians from the British Standard. At the close of the Council, they send Speeches to all the nations informing them of the result. I have now informed them, that they must proceed immediately to the great Council at Piqua. Tecumseh and Marpot are the only chiefs of consequence remaining with the British.

I am still detained from commenceing the siege of Malden, on account of the carriages for the heavy artillery not being prepared. Every exertion is ma [ms. defaced] to accelerate their completion.

On the 18th instant being informed that several of the British, with all their Indians had passed the bridge of

the River *Aux Canards,* I detached Col: McArthur with a part of his Regiment to protect the Inhabitants. This bridge is 12 miles from my encampment. The Col: met them at a small distance from the bridge, attacked, and forced them to repass when he retired from the bridge, the enemy returned and followed him, keeping up a distant fire. The Col: formed his detachment and drove them over the bridge a second time. Two of the Colonel's men were slightly wounded, the loss of the enemy is not ascertained. Col: McArthur's conduct, on this as well as all other occasions entitles him to credit.

Augustus Porter, the Contractor, arrived here last evening. We have provisions now for about 20 days; he has four hundred barrels in boats coasting the southern shore of the Lake: it is uncertain whether it will arrive in safety. He does not consider his contract as extending to this Province. I have already authorized Piatt & Co to furnish 200,000. Rations on account of the U. S. It probably will be fifteen days, before any of this will arrive. For the supply of the Army, I must either make a contract, or appoint an agent to purchase. The Provisions can be procured in this Province, and if the troops do their duty at Niagara, the whole Province will soon fall. [W. Hull]

The Hon: W. Eustis. [ms. torn]

Hull to Eustis

Sir, Detroit July 22d 5 oclock A.M.

Yesterday afternoon I passed over to this place, with Lt. Col: Miller and one battallion of the 4th Regt for the

purpose of accelerating the preparations for the siege of Malden. I find that entirely new carriages must be built for the 24 pounder and mortars. It will require at least two weeks to make the necessary preparations. It is in the power of this Army to take Malden by storm, but it would be attended, in my opinion, with too great a sacrifice under present circumstances.

I am making preperations for an attempt on the "Queen Charlotte."

If Malden was in our possession, I could march this Army to Niagara or York, in a very short time.

All the inhabitants are applying for protections under my proclamation.

I am very respectfully
Sir
Your most obedient
Humbl Servt
W Hull B. Genl
Commg N.W. Army U. S.

The Hon: Wm Eustis
Secretary of War

Eustis to Hull

War Dept
July 26 1812

Brig. Genl Hull
Detroit—

Sir

Your letters of the 9th & 10th instant were received late last evening. Gov Meigs has been directed to furnish the necessary troops to guard the road & ensure the transportation of the provisions. Genl Winchester has been ordered to reinforce you with 1500 recruits & volunteers from Kentucky as soon as practicable—A

force is collecting at Niagara—General Dearborns head Quarters are to be at Albany—He will be apprized of your situation and directed to keep up a correspondence with you and the immediate commandant at Niagara, and to take measures to afford the necessary support. Detroit and the upper country of the enemy are confided to you, and you will adopt such measures as good policy and exigencies may require. You will correspond by express when necessary with Gov. Meigs, the Officer commanding the detachment from Kentucky, the officer commanding at Niagara and with General Dearborn, and keep this Dept. informed of your arrangements and movements.

Very Respy

Br Genl Hull (signed) Wm Eustis.
Detroit.

Eustis to Dearborn

Major Genl Dearborn War Dept
Albany— July 26 1812
Sir

Your letter of the 17. inst is received. A letter from Brigadier General Hull of the 7th announces his arrival at Detroit with a force of more than 2000, consisting of the 4th Infantry recruits of the 1st Infantry, and volunteers from Ohio. His troops are in fine health and in good spirits, and he was providing the means to cross the river—arrangements should be immediately made by you to cooperate with him at Niagara.

One Regt of the New Army from Va and the recruits from Maryland and Pensylvania will be ordered to join you as soon as practicable, together with the 5th Inft.

under Colonel [Beall?] and a detachment of Colonel Burns Dragoons now concentrating at Trenton.

By the next mail you will receive Blank commissions for such volunteers as you think proper to organize and call into service, as advised by my letter of the 15th instant.

By Genl Hulls last letters of the 10th it appears that the supplies by the Lakes were cut off, and that he had made arrangements for supplying the troops under his command from Ohio. The British are making efforts to rally the Indians under their Standard—Genl Hull is making arrangements to dislodge the enemy from a post opposite Detroit. He does not think his force equal to the reduction of Amhertsburg, and General Winchester has been directed to reinforce him with 1500 recruits & volunteers from Kentucky and Ohio. Herewith enclosed you will receive a copy of a letter sent express to Genl Hull which will shew you the necessity of taking efficient measures to expel the enemy from the peninsula of the lakes and of cutting off all future Supplies by an adequate force at the rapids below Kingston

I have the honor &C. &C.

Hull to Eustis

Sir, Sandwich U. Canada July 29. 1812

Last evening two Chippewa Indians arrived at this encampment from Michillimackinac, with information that the British were in possession of that Post. They state that Mr Askin the Indian Agent at St Joseph landed with about thirty regulars, the same number of Cana-

dians and near one thousand Indians from Lake Superior, Lake Michigan, Green Bay &c that they had three pieces of Cannon and had moved them or were preparing to move them to the high ground which commands the Fort: that Mr Askin proceeded towards the Fort with a Flag and was met by Lieut Hanks the commandg. officer; that they remained together sometime, and when they separated Mr Askin called to his party to advance, informed them that the Fort was theirs, and they entered it without any opposition or a gun being fired. This unfortunate event they state, took place [?] days since. This account appeared to me so improbable that I did not at first give credit to it; being however well acquainted with one of the Indians who brought the information, on a close examination he related so many particulars, that I am induced to believe it is true.

I shall immediately send an express to Fort Dearborn with Orders to evacuate that post and retreat to this place, or Fort Wayne, provided it can be effected with a greater prospect of safety than to remain. Captn Heald is a judicious officer, and I shall confide much to his discretion.

The preparations for the siege of Malden are progressing as fast as possible. Every success has hitherto attended the operations of this Army, which could have been expected. The greatest part of the Indians in this quarter appear to be neutral; and large numbers of the Canadian Militia have deserted the enemy. If the information from Michillimackac [sic] is true (which at present, I am strongly inclined to believe) there is no doubt but a large body of hostile Indians may soon be expected here from the north, and it probably will have an effect

on those residing nearer to us. The preservation of this part of the country, and the conquest of Upper Canada being objects of great importance I have written to Governor Meigs of the state of Ohio, and Governor Scott of the state of Kentucky, letters, of which the enclosed marked No. 1, and 2 are copies, requesting a reinforcement of 2,000 men.

I am preparing a fortress on the Canada bank of the River Detroit, a little below our fort at Detroit, sufficient to contain about 300 men, in which I shall place cannon in order to command the river, and maintain both banks in any event of things.

I have the fullest confidence that a force will be immediately ordered to this country sufficient to make an entire conquest of all enemies in our neighbourhood.

I have the honor to be
respectfully
Your Most obedt Servant
W Hull.
Brigr Genl.

P.S. We have flour now only for 2 weeks, the principal supply must come from Ohio, the road must be guarded to enable the contractor to bring on the supplies.

The Honbl: W. Eustis
Secretary of War.

Hull to Gov. Meigs

[Enclosure in Hull to Eustis, July 29]

Sir, Sandwich, U. Canada July 29 1812

In my letter of this date to the Secretary of War, I

have requested a reinforcement of two thousand men, 500 from the State of Ohio, and 1500 from the State of Kentucky—I hope sir you will consider yourself authorized to call the number required from Ohio into service, and order them to this place before you receive particular instructions from the Secretary of War—I have just received information that Michillimackinac has been taken by the British, aided by about one thousand Indians.

The operations of this army have hitherto been successful, and it is of the greatest importance, that the objects should be effected, I refer you to
for every information respecting the army—The men must be armed, we have no spare arms here—

I have the honor to be
respectfully
your obedient Servant
(Signed) W. Hull—

His Excellency
Gov. Meigs

Hull to Gov. Scott

[Enclosure in Hull to Eustis, July 29]

Sandwich, Upper Canada
July 29 1812

Sir,

In my letter of this date to the Secretary of War, I have requested a reinforcement of two thousand men, 1500 from the State of Kentucky, and 500 from the State of Ohio—I hope, Sir, you will consider yourself author-

ised to call them into service, and order them to the place of destination, before you receive particular instructions from the Secretary of the department of War.

I have just received information, that Michillimackinac (situate 300 miles from here) has been taken by the British, aided by about one thousand Indians—The operations of this army have hitherto been successful, and it is of the greatest importance that the objects should be effected. I refer you to Mr Carneal for every information respecting the situation of the army, and the state of things—The men must be armed; we have no spare arms here.

I have the honor to be
respectfully
Your obedient Servant
(Signed) W. Hull
Brig: Genl: Commg.

His Excellency
Governor Scott—

Eustis to Hull

War Department
August 1, 1812.

Sir

Your letters of the 13th & 14th Inst. together with your proclamation have been received—

You operations are approved by the President. It is however deemed necessary that you should not lose sight of the instructions of June 24th as any pledge beyond that is incompatible with the views of the Government.—

Without a critical enquiry how far the Stock of the North West Company comes within the description of private property should you at any time be satisfied that it would be used injuriously to the Interests of the U. States or that the possession of it may be essentially useful to the public Service, you are authorized to take possession & hold control over it leaving to the Repositor their claim to Restitution.

The Bills of Mr Piatt will be duly honored, as well as all others drawn by your authority for public service.— By the law Deputy Commissioners are allowed 2½ per cent on their provisions and full compensation for their services in ordinary cases; but this will not controul any arrangement or contract you may deem it expedient to make for Supplying the Army under your command

Very Respectfully &c

Copy.

(Signed) W. Eustis.

B. General
Wm Hull
Detroit

[Eustis] to Dearborn

War Dept August 1, 1812

General Dearborn, Albany

Inclosed herewith you will receive a copy of a letter from Brigadier General Hull of July 19th by express— You will make a diversion in his favour at Niagara and at Kingston as soon as may be practicable & by such operations as may be within your control—

P. Hanks to Hull

Copy Detroit,
Sir, 4th August 1812.

I take the earliest opportunity to acquaint Your Excellency of the surrender of the Garrison of Michilimakinac, under my Command to His Brittanic Majesty's Forces, under the command of Capt: Charles Roberts, on the 17th Ultimo, the particulars of which are as follows—On the 16th I was informed by the Indian Interpreter that he had discovered from an Indian that the several nations of Indians, then at St Joseph, (a British Garrison distant forty five miles) intended to make an immediate attack on Michilimakinac. I was induced from the coolness I had discovered in some of the principal Chiefs of the Ottawa and Chippawa nations, who had but a few days before, professed the greatest friendship for the United States, to place confidence in this report. I immediately called a meeting of the American Gentlemen, at that time on the Island, in which it was thought proper to dispatch a confidential person to St Joseph, to watch the motion of the Indians. Capt Dousman, of the Militia, was thought the most suitable for this service. He embarked about sun set, and met the British Forces within ten or fifteen miles of the Island, by whom he was made prisoner, and put on his parole of honor. He was landed on the Island at day break, with positive directions to give me no intelligence whatever. He was also instructed to take the Inhabitants of the village, indiscriminately, to a place on the west side of the Island, where their persons and property should be protected

by a British guard: but should they go to the Fort, they would be subject to a general massacre by the Savages, which would be inevitable if the Garrison fired a gun. This Information I received from Doctor Day, who was passing through the village, when every person was flying for refuge to the Enemy. Immediately on my being informed of the approach of the Enemy, I placed ammunition &c in the Block houses, ordered every gun charged and made every preparation for Action. About 9 oclock I could discover that the Enemy were in possession of the heights that commanded the Fort, and one piece of their Artillery directed to the most defenceless part of the Garrison. The Indians at this time were to be seen in great numbers in the edge of the woods. At half past 11 oclock the Enemy sent in a Flag of Truce, demanding a surrender of the Fort and Island to His Brittanic Majesty's Forces. This, Sir, was the first information I had of the declaration of War. I, however, had anticipated it, and was as well prepared to meet such an event as I possibly could have been with the force under my command, amounting to Fifty seven effective men including Officers. Three American Gentlemen, who were prisoners, were permitted to accompany the flag. From them I ascertained the strength of the Enemy to be from nine hundred to one thousand strong, consisting of Regular Troops, Canadians and Savages—that they had two pieces of Artillery, and were provided with Ladders and ropes for the purpose of scaling the works if necessary. After I had obtained this information, I consulted my officers and also the American Gentlemen present, who were very intelligent men, the result of which was that it was impossible for the Garrison to hold out against

Such Superior force. In this Opinion I fully concurred from a conviction that it was the only measure that could prevent a general massacre. The Fort and Garrison were accordingly surrendered. The enclosed papers exhibit Copies of the Correspondence between the Officer commanding the British forces and myself, and of the Articles of Capitulation. This subject involved questions of a peculiar nature, and I hope, Sir, that my demands and protest will meet the approbation of my Government. I cannot allow this opoprtunity to escape without expressing my obligation to Doctor Day for the service he rendered me in conducting this correspondence.—

In consequence of this unfortunate affair, I beg leave, Sir, to demand that a Court of Enquiry may be ordered to investigate all the facts connected with it, and I do further request that the Court may be specially directed to express their opinion on the merits of the case.—

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Very respectfully
Your Obed: Servt
P. Hanks.
Lieut. of Arty.

P. S.

The following particulars relative to the British Force, was obtained after the Capitulation, from a source that admits of no doubt.—

Regular Troops—	46 including 4 officers
Canadian Militia .	260
Total	306

Savages		
Sioux	56	
Winnebagoes	48	
Tallesawains	39	
Chippawas & Ottawas	572	
	715	Savages
	306	Whites
Total —	1021	

It may also be remarked that one hundred and fifty Chippawas and Ottawas joined the British two days after the Capitulation.—

P. H.

His Excellency
General Hull
Commanding the N.W. Army.

Hull to Eustis

Duplicate

Sandwich. U.C. August 4, 1812

Sir

At the time when the Army under my command took possession of this part of the province of upper Canada, everything appeared favourable and all the operations of the Army have been successfull. Circumstances have since occured which seem materially to change our future prospects—

The unexpected surrender of Michillimackinack and the tardy operations of the Army at Niagara are the circumstances to which I allude. I have every reason to expect, in a very short time, a large body of Savages from the north, whose opperations will be directed against this Army—They are under the influence of the North and south west Companies—and the interest of those Companies depends on opening the Communication of the Detroit River this Summer—It is the Channel by which they obtain their supplies and their can be no doubt but every effort will be made against this Army to open that communication—It is the opinion of the officers—and the most intelligent Gentlemen from Mackinack—that the British can engage any number of Indians they may have occasion for and that, including the Engages of N.W. and S.W. Companies) two or three thousand will be brought to this place in a very short time,—Dispatches have been sent to Malden, and the Messengers have returned with Orders.—With respect to the delay at Niagara—the following consequences have followed—A Major Chambers of the British Army, with fifty five regulars, and four pieces of brass Artillery, have been detached from Niagara and by the last accounts, had penetrated as far as delaware—about one hundred and twenty miles from this place—Every effort was making by this detachment, to obtain reinforcements from the Militia and Indians—considerable numbers had joined, and it was expected this force would consist of six or seven hundred—The object of this force, is to operate against this Army—Two days ago, all the Indians were sent from Malden, with a small body of British Troops, to Brownstown, and Maguago, and made prisoners of the

Wyandotts at those places. There are strong reasons to believe, that it was by their own consent—not withstanding the professions they had made—Under all these circumstances, you will perceive that the situation of this Army is Critical. I am now preparing a work on this Bank, which may be defended, by about three hundred men. I have consulted with the principal Officers, and an attempt to Storm the fort at Malden, is thought unadviseable without Artillery to make a Breach. The pickets are fourteen feet high, and defended by Bastians on which are mounted, twenty four pieces of Canon—I am p[r]eparing floating Batteries, to drive the Queen Charlotte from the mouth of the River Canards and land them below that River—and it is my intention to march down with the Army, and as soon a[s] a breach can be made, attempt [Malden?] by storm—Circumstances however, may render it necessary to recross the River with the Main body of the Army to preserve the Communication, for the purpose of obtaining supplies from Ohio—I am constantly obliged to make a strong detachments, to convoy the provisions between the foot of the Rapids and Detroit—If nothing should [?] be done at Niagara, and the force should come from the north and the east, as is almost certain, you must be sensible of the difficulties which will attend my situation—I can promise nothing but my best and most faithful exertions to promote the honor of the Army and the interest of my Country—

I am very respectfully,
your Most Obt Servt.

Hon. Wm. Eustis
Secty Depart of War—

W Hull.

Dearborn to Eustis

Extract of a letter from Major General Dearborn to the Secretary of War dated "Head quarters Greenbush Aug. 8th '12."

"It is said, a detachment has been sent from Niagara by land to Detroit—if so, I should presume that before they can march 250 miles Genl Hull will receive notice of their approach & in season to cut them off before they reach Fort Malden—It is reported that no ordnance or ammunition have reached Niagara this season; and that there is a great deficiency of those articles—"The number of the detachment marched from Niagara cannot exceed two hundred, as the whole force of the enemy in that quarter has amounted to only about 450 regulars, from 3 to 500 militia and about 300 Indians"—

Eustis to Hull

Copy.

War Department
August 8th 1812.

Sir,

Your Letters of the 20 & 22d ulto have been received, and your arrangements are approved by the President.—Your authorities extend to all necessary provisions for the army under Your Command.—

Very Respectfully &c
(Signed) W. Eustis.

Brigr General
Wm Hull

Hull to Eustis

Detroit 8th Augt 1812

Sir

I have received your letter of the 26 of July—Under existing circumstances I have from a sense of Public duty, and contrary to all my private feelings recrossed the Detroit River with the main Body of the Army, without making an attempt on the British Fort at Malden. My reasons were that I did not consider it could be done consistent with my Orders (viz.) the safety of the Posts in our own Country—Contrary to my expectations, the Wyandotts have became hostile, and the other nations connected with them are following the example. Since the fall of Mackinack the Indian force has been fast increasing in this part of the Country—From all the information, a large Indian and Canadian force may be expected from Mackinack and the force from Niagara, which I mentioned in my former letter, is advancing—My communication with the State of Ohio—on which the supplies of this Army depend, is cut off,—and having been defeated in an attempt to open that communication, as appears by my letter of the 7th inst—I considered it indispensibly necessary, to open that communication—Perhaps the reduction of Malden would have been the most effectual mode.—The bridges were broke down, and the nature of the Country was such, that the officers of the Artillery gave it as their Opinions, that the heavy pieces could not be brought before the work—without much time, and great Labour—more time indeed than would have been safe to have employed. Time does not

admit of a detail of all the difficulties—which every hour were increasing—I have built a work nearly opposite Detroit, garrisoned by 230 Infantry and 25 Artillerists. In pursuance of my system, Lieut. Col: Miller is now commencing his march, with six hundred of the best troops of the Army, to meet Capt Brush from Ohio, with two hundred volunteers, escorting three hundred head of cattle, and a quantity of flour on pack horses.—

I am respectfully your
Mo. Ob. Servant
W Hull.

The Hon: W. Eustis
Secy of War

General Orders for a Court of Enquiry on Conduct of Porter Hanks

Head Quarters of the
Copy. North Western Army
Detroit
General Orders. Augt 14. 1812.—

A Court of Enquiry will assemble tomorrow at 10 o'clock in the forenoon for the purpose of examining into the Conduct of Lieutenant Porter Hanks of the Artillery, late commanding officer of the Garrison and Post of Michilimakinac and especially that part of his conduct which relates to the surrender of that Post and Garrison to His Brittanic Majesty's forces, and the Articles of Capitulation which he agreed to and signed on the 17th July last, and the supplement thereto on the 23d of the same month.

Lieut Col. Miller is appointed President. Captns Dyson and Baker members and Lieut Bacon Recorder.

The Court will assemble at the President's Quarters and adjourn to any place in the Garrison or Town of Detroit, that may be convenient. This Court has been demanded by Lieut Hanks, and is required to give an Opinion on the merits of the Case.

By Command of B.G. Hull.

TH. JESSUP.
Major of Brigade

COURT OF ENQUIRY FOR PORTER HANKS

Head Quarters

After Genl Orders. Detroit 15th Augt 1812.

Captn Baker being unable to attend the Court of Enquiry, of which Lieut Col. Miller is President, Capt. Snelling will supply his place.—

WM HULL
B. Genl Comdg

COURT OF ENQUIRY FOR PORTER HANKS

Detroit,
Augt 15, 1812.—

Pursuant to the above Order, the Court met, with the exception of Captn Baker, whose indisposition being reported, Capt. J. Snelling was substituted, and the Court organized as follows—

Lieut. Col. Jas Miller President

Captn Dyson and
" Snelling } Members

Lieut I. Bacon Recorder, and being duly sworn, proceeded to the examination directed by the foregoing Order.—

Lieut Hanks here offered sundry Papers and Documents explanatory of his conduct, in the words and figures following—

Roberts to Hanks

[Presented before the Court of Enquiry]

Heights ab
Copy. Fort Michilimakinac
17. July 1812.

Sir

I summon you to an unconditional surrender of the Fort and Island of Michilimakinac to the Arms of His Brittanic Majesty, and in order to save the effusion of blood, which must of necessity follow the attack of such Troops as I have under my Command.—

I recommend this for your consideration. One half hour only will be allowed for your decision. This is conveyed to you by one of my Officers, and Mr. Pothier who has been so obliging to offer his Services.

Charles Roberts
Captn Comg
His Brittanic Majesty's
Forces.—

The Officer Commg
The Forces of the
United States of
America.—

Hanks to Roberts

[Presented before the Court of Enquiry]

Fort Michilimakinac
July 17, 1812.

Sir,

Your demand of the Surrender of the Fort and Island of Michilimackinac to His Brittanic Majesty's Forces has been received.

An unconditional Surrender is hereby made in compliance with the summons.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Very respectfully
Your Obedt Servt
P Hanks Lieut Comg
the United States Troops.

Capt. Charles Roberts
Commanding the British Troops.—

Capitulation of Michilimackinac

[Presented before the Court of Enquiry]

Copy.

Heights above
Michilimakinac
17th July 1812.

Capitulation agreed upon between Capt. Charles Roberts commanding His Brittanic Majesty's Forces, on the

one part, and Lieut. Porter Hanks Commanding the Forces of the United States of America, on the other part—

1st—The Fort of Michilimakinac shall immediately be surrendered to the Brittish Forces.—

2d—The Garrison shall march out with the honors of war—lay down their arms, and become prisoners of war, and shall be sent to the United States of America by His Brittanic Majesty, not to serve this war until regularly exchanged:—and for the due performance of this Article, the Officers pledge their word and honor.—

3d—All the merchant vessels in the Harbour, with their Cargoes shall be in possession of their respective Owners.—

4th—Private property shall be held sacred, as far as it is in my power.—

5th—All Citizens of the United States, who shall not take the Oath of Allegiance to His Brittanic Majesty, shall depart with their property from the Island in one month from the date hereof.—

Charles Roberts Capt Comdg
His Brittanic Majesty's
Forces.—

P. Hanks Lieut Comdg
the United States Troops.

Supplement to the Articles of Capitulation signed on the 17th July.

The Captains & Crews of the vessels Erie and Free-good-will, shall be included under the second article, not

to serve until regularly Exchanged, for which their Officers shall pledge their word and honor.—

Charles Roberts Captn Comdg
the forces of his Brittanic Majesty

Fort
Michilimakinac, (Granted) P. Hanks Lieut. Comdg
23d July 1812.— the United States Troops.

Roberts to Hanks

[Presented before the Court of Enquiry]

Copy

Fort Michilimakinac
19th July 1812.—

Sir,

Having been informed last night, that there are several Brittish Deserters amongst the men composing your Garrison, I have to request you will order a List of their names to be given in to me.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your Most Obedt Serv.
Charles Roberts Captn
Comdg Brittish Forces.

Lieut. Hanks
&c &c &c

Hanks to Roberts

[Presented before the Court of Enquiry]

Copy Michilimakinac
Sir, July 19th 1812.—

I have received your note of this date; and in answer thereto must inform you that I know of no men of my Garrison of the description you mention.—

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Very respectfully
Your Obedt Servt
P. Hanks Lieut:
Comdg the U.S. Troops

Capt: Charles Roberts
Comdg
The Brittish Troops.

Roberts to Hanks

[Presented before the Court of Enquiry]

Copy. Fort Michilimackinac
Sir 22d July 1812.—

I have the honor to enclose you a List of the men's names who composed a part of your former Garrison, and whom I have discovered to be Brittish Subjects. As such I claim them in the name of His Brittanic Majesty, and I have to request you will order that all their just claims may be liquidated previous to your departure from this place.—

Alexander Parks, Hugh Kelly and Redmond McGrath

prove to be Deserters from the Brittish Army. —

I have taken proper means for securing them so that they may be made accountable to their own Government.—

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your Most Obedt Serv
CHARLES ROBERTS Captn
Comdg the Brittish forces.

Lieut Hanks
Comg the Troops of the
United States.

CHARLES ROBERTS' LIST OF BRITISH SUBJECTS

[Enclosure in Roberts to Hanks, July 22]

List of Brittish subjects.

Peter Brown
Richard Joell
Joseph Migorond
J. B. Pereault
Joseph Tessier
John Phillips
Jacque Senné
Joseph Sarivierre
Hypolite Senecal
Antoine Robbilliard
Maurice Monta
Joseph Benoit
Joseph Vallencourt
Noel Braudrie
Francis Vallencourt

Iran Sylvester
Pierre Bourdon
Pierre Tebraudeau
John Gordon
Pascal Peter.

Hanks to Roberts

[Presented before the Court of Enquiry]

Copy Michilimackinac
Sir, July 23, 1812.—

I am honored with your letter of the 22d inst containing a List of Twenty non-Comissioned Officers and Privates, who composed a part of the American Forces at this Garrison under my Command previous to it's Capitulation, and who you claim as Brittish Subjects in the name of His Brittanic Majesty.—It is my duty, Sir, to observe that I know of no men of my former garrison to be Brittish Subjects, and must therefore, in behalf of my Government, claim them all as American Soldiers, and request that they be embarked as such.

The Troops composing my former garrison will receive their pay to include the 30th of June, previous to my departure from this place.—

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Very respectfully,
Your Obedt Serv
P Hanks Lieut: Comdg
the United States Troops.

Capt. Roberts
Comg the British Troops.—

Hanks to Roberts

[Presented before the Court of Enquiry]

Copy

Michilimackinac
24th July 1812.

Sir,

I have understood that you intend holding the Debts due the United States Factory, and the property in the Commissary's Store, as public property. I will thank you to inform me whether such is the case or not?

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Very respectfully,
Your Obedt Servt
P Hanks Lieut: Comdg
the United States Troops.

Capt. Roberts
Comdg
the Brittish Troops.

Roberts to Hanks

[Presented before the Court of Enquiry]

Copy

Fort Michilimackinac
24 July 1812.

Sir,

I have had the honor to receive your letter of this date, and beg leave to reply that I do consider the Debts due the Factory of the United States, and also the Com-

missary's Stores, as public property, and as such liable to seisure.—

I have the honor to be
Sir,
Your Most Obed Servt
CHARLES ROBERTS Captn
Comdg the Brittish Forces.

Lieut: Hanks
Comdg the Forces
of the United States.—

HANKS TO ROBERTS

[Presented before the Court of Enquiry]

Copy. Michilimackinac.
Sir, July 24 1812.—

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of this date, in which you claim, as public property, the Debts due the United States Factory, and also the Commissary Stores. I consider myself bound to protest against these claims, as it is clearly my opinion they ought to be considered as private property, and delivered to their respective Claimants.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Very respectfully,
Your Obedt Servt
P. HANKS Lieut: Comdg
the U. States' Troops.

Capt. Charles Roberts
Comdg
the British Troops.—

Petition from William Lee and Walter Norton to Hanks

[Presented before the Court of Enquiry]

Copy.

To Lieut Porter Hanks Commanding the United States' Forces at Michilimackinac.

The Petition of the Crews of the Sloop Friends-good-will, and Sloop Erie of Black Rock

Respectfully represent that being captured by His Brittanic Majestys Forces at this place, on the 21 & 22d inst on our way from Chicago to Detroit, and likely to remain prisoners of war at this place, without your interference in our behalf, and We your memorialists humbly beseech you to obtain for us permission to depart from this Island, in any way that may seem best to you

And your Petitioners in duty bound will pray.

William Lee Master of
the Sloop Friends-good-will
Walter Norton Master of
the Sloop Erie of Black Rock

Eustis to Hull

War Dept
August 15th 1812

Sir

Your letters of July 28 & 29th have been received. On the 2d instant General Winchester reported that a De-- tachment of four hunrred recruits would march for De-

troit in ten days under Colonel Wells. This Detachment may be delayed a short time should Genl Winchester think it advisable to march the whole reinforcement in one body. Herewith inclosed you will receive a copy of a letter to Governor Meigs which will shew that measures are taken to meet your wishes as far as practicable.—

The Quarter Master General was ordered on the 12 inst to forward the medical stores to Detroit, which had been detained at Buffaloe. Lieutenant Johnson had previously been ordered to forward various surgical instruments from Pittsburg.

Very Respectfully &c
(signed) W. Eustis

Brigr General
Wm Hull

Eustis to Gov. Meigs

[Enclosure in Eustis to Hull, Aug. 15]

Copy War Dept
Sir August 15 1812

Since mine of the 13th by Captain Curtis, a copy of which is inclosed, a letter has been received from General Hull, by which it appears that he has requested of your Excellency a reinforcement of five hundred men. I am instructed by the President to request your Excellency to comply with this requisition as soon as may be, to continue your correspondence with Genl Hull and to furnish any additional reinforcements which he may require

It is all important that the road should be well guarded—It should also be kept in repair

I have the honor to be
Sir your Obt Servant
W. Eustis

His Excellency
Gov Meigs

Isaac Brock to Hull

Head Quarters Sandwich 15th Augt 1812.

Sir

The force at my disposal, authorizes me to require of you the immediate Surrender of Fort Detroit—

It is far from my inclination to join in a war of extermination, but you must be aware that the numerous body of Indians, who have attached themselves to my Troops, will be beyond my Controul the moment the contest commences—You will find me disposed to enter into such conditions, as will satisfy the most scrupulous sense of Honor—Lt Colo McDonell & Major Gregg are fully authorized, to conclude any arrangement, that may lead to stop the unnecessary effusion of blood—

I have the Honor to be
Sir
Your Excellencys most obedt Servt
signed Isaac Brock
Major General

His Excellency
General Hull
Comg Fort Detroit.

Copy.

Hull to Brock

Head Quarters at Detroit 15th
Augt 1812—

Sir—

I have received your letter of this date—I have no other reply to make, than to inform you, that I am prepared to meet any force, which may be at your disposal, and any consiquences, which may result, from any exertion of it, you may think proper to make—

I avail myself of this Opportunity to inform you, that the Flag of Truce, under the direction of Capt Brown proceeded, contrary to the Orders, and without the knowledge of Colo Cass, who commanded the Troops, which attacked your picket near the River Canard Bridge—

I likewise take this occasion to inform you that [Gawes?] house was set on fire, contrary to my orders, and it did not take place untill after the evacuation of the Fort, and from the best information, I have been able to obtain, on the subject, it was set on fire by some of the Inhabitants on the other side of the River—

I am very respectfully your
Excellency's most Obedt
Servt
signed W Hull B. Genl
Comg

Copy.

His Excellency Major Genl Brock
Comg at Sandwich &c

Eustis to Hull

Copy.

War Department
August 16th 1812

Sir

Since closing my Dispatch of the day your Letter of the 19th of July by Capt Curtis has been received. Captain Curtis having remained a few miles from the City on account of Indisposition, I have not had an opportunity of a personal interview, and as the Express leaves this place in the morning I had not thought it necessary to summon him. I shall probably see Captn Curtis in the morning. The progress you have made & the success which has attended it is highly satisfactory to the President and your future operations are regarded with an interest & expectation proportionate to their consiquences.

On the 26th of July your Letters of the 7th & 10th were inclosed to General Dearborn with a Copy of mine to you of the 26th accompanied with a Request that he would make a diversion in your favor. The General must have received this Letter at Albany.—

By the mail of this Evening yours of the 29th is inclosed to him with an instruction to make a diversion at Niagara & Kingston as soon as practicable.

Very Respectfully &c

(Signed) W. Eustis

Br. General
Wm Hull
Detroit

HULL TO THE OFFICER OF THE BLOCK HOUSE ON THE MIAMI

Sir Detroit 17th Augt 1812

You & the Garrison at the Block House on the Miami at the foot of the Rapids are considered as subject to the Articles of the Capitulation of the 16th Instant, when the Fort at Detroit, surrendered—

You will therefore Comply with the same under the Orders of the Officer Commanding the British Army at this Place—

I am verry respectfully
your mo. ob
W HULL B. Genl
Comg

To the Officer Comg the
Block House—at the foot
of the Rapids—
Duplicate.

EUSTIS TO HULL

War Department
August 20th
Dr Sir, 1812.

Occasions may arise in which you may find it convenient to make use of a cypher. I enclose one with explanations and am respectfully

yr obedt Servt
W EUSTIS.

General Hull.

Eustis to Hull

War Department
August 20th 1812.

Sir,

General Dearborn has communicated to the Department an arrangement by which it was agreed between him and Sir George Prevost that offensive operations should be suspended until the determination of this Government should be made known to him, or certain information presumed by General Dearborn to be contained in a Dispatch transmitted by Sir George Prevost to Mr Baker, late Secretary of Legation of His B. Majesty in this City. It further appears by Genl Dearborn's Letter, that he had made known and proposed to you a concurrence in said agreement, so far as your Orders & as circumstances might permit.--

I am now instructed by the President to inform you that no communication such as was supposed by General Dearborn might have been transmitted has been made to this Government by Mr Baker or by any authorized agent of the British Government which will justify a delay or suspension of any military operations of which General Dearborn has been duly informed.—In case therefore you shall have entered into any stipulation respecting a suspension of offensive operations with the officer commanding the forces of His Britainnic Majesty in your vicinity you will cause it to be made known to him that such stipulation is after due notice, to cease & determine; and you will proceed in the same manner as if no such agreement had been entered into.—

Orders have been given to General Dearborn to attack the Enemy's posts at Niagara & Kingston as soon as may be practical.

Our force at Niagara according to General Dearborn's account will amount to Twenty four hundred, & he will notify you of Such movements & operations as he may order.— It is indispensably necessary that a communication should be kept up between you and the Commandant at Niagara.—

Very Respectfully &c
(Signed) W. Eustis

Brigr General
Wm Hull
Detroit

Eustis to Hull

Copy.

War Department
August 20th 1812.

Sir,

Since my Letter of the 15th Instant the Rumor of the Surrender of Michilimackinac is too well confirmed. That post must eventually belong to the United States. How far your means will justify or how far it may be advisable to make a diversion to that object at this time you will be the proper judge.—

The Reinforcements of which you have been advised must be now on their march from Kentucky & Ohio. The plan of operation against Upper Canada will necessarily imply a cooperation of your army with the force which has been ordered to cross and attack at Niagara. Mal-

den seems at present to be an obstacle to your forming a junction with the Troops below.—

The Posts of Michilimackinac & Chicago could not be supposed essentially connected with the general plan of the Campaign, and were left at your discretion for such Orders as Exigencies might render necessary, or advisable.——

You will be constantly advised of all Orders and Arrangements for your support—great confidence is reposed in your military knowledge & Experience—and you will act in all cases according to your own discretion.—The Governor of Kentucky as well as the Governor of Ohio, has been instructed to furnish Detachments of Militia on your Requisition.—

Very respectfully
I have the Honor to be,
Sir, your obedt Servant,—
W. Eustis.

Brigr General
William Hull
Commanding the
North-Western Army US.

Worthington and Morrow to [?]

Sir Piqua Augt 20th 1812

You will have learned before this reaches you that the commencement of the Indian council was postponed from the 1st to the 15th inst. when all the commissioners attended On the 15th and 16th insts near 800 Indians (men women and children) arrived composed of Shaw-

anoes Delawares Wyandots Taw-ways & Kickapoes. It appears pretty evident that Brittish agents have used every exertion to prevent the attendance of the Indians & not without success to a certain extent.

This together with the unfavourable state of our affairs to the North has we apprehend had a considerable effect on the movements of the Indians and will on our part require additionl exertion and caution. We deem it all important in the present critical situation of affairs to use every means in our power to keep the Indians quiet either at their homes or at the council untill the re-enforcements get to Detroit and a favourable change takes place we have with a view to effect this sent confidential persons out among them to watch them to hasten such as are on the way in and to counteract the operations of the Brittish

You will perceive with this view of the subject that it will be necessary to prolong the council to a period beyond what might otherwise have been necessary. All is quiet at present on the frontier and we hope will continue so tho' we acknowledge we shall not be entirely without fear at least untill this army gets on the frontier We have only to add that we shall do all in our power to aid in the operations and effect the objects of the Government—

Very respectfully

T Worthington

Jer Morrow

P.S. Govr Miegs left on the 18th and is now at Urbanna using every exertion to start re-enforcements and supplies for this Army and [?] his return to the council is uncertain

T. Worthington to [?]

Piqua Augt 20th 1812

Dr Sir

I wrote you to day jointly with Mr Morrow on the subject of our duties here and now address you on several other subjects You will no doubt before this reaches you have learned through many channels the reverse our affairs to the north have taken. Be assured things are bad enough and I shall not be surprised to hear of the loss of Hulls army before he is re-enforced. The great difficulty at present in carrying on our operations to the north is how to supply the army with provisions. you may remember that I pointed out this as the best route that is from this to fort defiance and then by water down the Maimia to the rapids & so on. I find on further examination—I was right and am satisfied Govr Hull was wrong in taking another rout. I should therefore advise that in future this should be taken as safeest at best. I have heard since my arrival at this place that troops are about to be marched from Kentuckey to carry on an expedition against the Thousands of Indians which Govr Edwards has been collecting in Illinois between Michigan & Missi for two years past How his great collection of Indians at piora have been supported so long I cannot conceive This man has excited more useless alarm in the west than any other I know and I most heartily wish him some berth where he would have less to fear. His statements may be true. I do not believe them and fear he relies too much on hearsay reports.

If it be true this expedition is to be carried on if the

Indians are about to be attacked soon the assertions of the Brittish to the Indians will be verified to wit That the Americans whilst they (the Indians) were attending the council intend to distroy those of the Indians left at home about 30 Keckapoes from near piora are here and wait for the rest of there chiefs one principal chief is here. If the Govt intend to carry on war against the Indians I trust it will be general at all events let us not be treating and fighting at the same time If the force about to be called out be to protect the settlements it is all well but from the manner Govr Harrison writes us I understand hostile operations are to be carried on I have only to add and it is with reluctance & regret that Genl Hull I am satisfied has lost the confidence of the troops under his command

With esteem & respect
T Worthington

Hull to Eustis

Fort George August 26th 1812

Sir

Inclosed are the articles of capitulation by which the Fort of Detroit has been surrendered to Major General Brock, commanding his Britanic Majestys forces in upper canada, and by which the troops have become prisoners of war. My situation at present forbids me from detailing the particular causes which have led to this unfortunate event—I will however generally observe that after the surrender of Michilimackanac, almost every tribe, and nation of Indians excepting a part of the

Miamies, and Delawares, north from beyond lake Superior, West from beyond the Mississippi, South from the Ohio, and Wabash and east from every part of Upper canada, and from all the Intermediate Country, joined in open hostility, under the British standard, against the army I commanded; contrary to the most solemn assurances of a large portion of them to remain neutral; even the Ottawa Chiefs from Arbe crotch who formed the deligation to Washington the last summer in whose friendship I know you had great confidence, are among the hostile tribes, and several of them distinguished leaders —Among the vast number of chiefs who led the hostile bands, Tecumsee, Marpot, Logan, Walkinthewater, Split Log &c are considered the principals—This numerous assemblage of savages, under the entire influence and direction of the British Commander, enabled him totally to obstruct the only communication, which I had with my country — — This communication had been opened from the settlements in the State of Ohio, two hundred miles through a wilderness, by the fatigues of the army, which I marched to the fronteer on the River Detroit—The body of the Lake being commanded by the British armed ships, and, the shores &, River by gun boats, the army was totally deprived of all communication by water. On this extensive road it depended for transportation of provisions, military stores medicine, colthing, and every other supply on pack horses—all its operations were successful untill its arrival at Detroit, and in a few days, it passed into the enemys country, and all opposition seemed to fall before it—One Month it remained in possession of this Country, and was fed from its resources—In different directions, detachments penetrated,

sixty miles in the settled part of the province, and the inhabitants seemed satisfied with the change of situation, which appeared to be taking place—The Militia from Amherstburg were daily deserting, and the whole country then under the countroul of the army, was asking for protection. The indians generally in the first instance appeared to be neutralised, and determined to take no part in the contest. The Fort of Amherstburg was eighteen miles below my encampment. Not a single cannon or mortar was on wheels suitable to carry before that place. I consulted my officers, whether it was expedient to make an attempt on it with the bayonet alone without cannon to make a break in the first instance.—The council I called was of the Opinion it was not—The greatest industry was exerted in making preperation, and it was not untill the 7th of August that 2 24 pounders, and three Howtzers were prepared. It was then my intention to have proceeded on the enterprise. While the operations of the army were delayd by these preperations, the clouds of adversity had been for some time, and seemed still thickly to be gathering around me—The surrender of Michilimackinac opened the Northern hive of Indians, and they were swarming down in every direction. Reinforcements from Niagara had arrived at Amherstburg under the command of Colonel Proctor—The desertion of the Militia ceased—Besides the reinforcements that came by water, I received information of a very considerable force under the command of m[?] Chambers on the River Le Trench with four field pieces, and collecting the Militia on his route, evidently destined for Amherstburg; and in addition to this combination, and increase of force, contrary to all my expecta-

tions, the Wyandots, Chippewas, Ottawas, Pottawatmies, Munsees, Delewares &c with whom I had the most friendly intercourse, at once passed over to Amherstburg, and accepted the tomahawk and scalping Knife—There being now a vast number of Indians at the British post, they were sent to the River Huron, Brownstown, and Maguago to intersept my communication. To open this communication, I detached Major Vanhorne of the Ohio volunteers with two hundred men to proceed as far as the River Raisin, under an expectation he would meet Captain Brush with one hundred, and fifty men, Volunteers from the State of Ohio, and a quantity of provisions for the army—An ambuscade was formed at Brownstown, & Major Vanhornes detachment, defeated and returned to camp, without affecting the object of the expedition.

In my letter of the 7th instant you have the particulars of that transaction with a return of the Killed, and wounded. Under this sudden and unexpected change of things, and having received an express from General Hall commanding opposite the British shore on the Niagara river, by which it appeared that there was no prospect of any coopperation from that quarter, and the two senr officers of the Artillery having stated to me an opinion that it would be extreemly difficult, if not impossible to pass the turkey river and River aux Cannard, with the 24 pounders, and that they could not be transported by water as the Qween Sharlootte which carried 18. 24 pounders, lay in the River Detroit above the mouth of the River Auxcannard, and as it appeared indispensibley necessary to open the communication to the River Raisin, and the Miami, I found myself compelled to

suspend the operation against Amherstburg, and concentrate the main force of the army at Detroit. Fully intending, at that time after the communication was oppened to recross the river, and pursue the object at Amherstburg, and strongly desirous of continuing protection to a very large number of the inhabitants of upper cannada, who had voluntarily accepted it under my proclamation, I established a fortress on the banks of the River a little below Detroit, calculated for a garrison of Three hundred men. On the evening of the 7th, and morning of the 8th inst the army, excepting the garrison of 250 Infantry, and a corps of Artillerests, all under the command of Major Denny of the Ohio Volunteers, recrossed the river, and encamped at Detroit. In pursuance of the object of opening the communication, on which I considered the existance of the army depending, a detachment of six hundred men under the command of Lt Colonel Miller was immediately ordered—For a particular account of the proceedings of this detachment, and the memorable battle which was fought at Maguago, which reflects the highest honor on the american arms, I refer you to my letter of the 13th August inst. a duplicate of which is inclosed marked G—Nothing however but honor was acquired by the victory; and it is a painful consideration, that the blood of seventy five gallant men could only open the communication, as far as the points of their bayonets extended. The necessary care of the sick and wounded, and a very severe storm of rain rendered their return to camp indispensibly necessary for their own cumfort. Captain Brush with his small detachment, and the provisions being still at the River Raisin, and in a situation to be destroyed by the savages, on the 13th

inst in the evening I permitted Colonels McArthur & Cass to select from their Regts four hundred of their most effective men, and proceede, an upper rout through the woods which I had sent an express to Captain Brush to take, and had directed the Militia of the River Raisin to accompany him as a reinforcement. The force of the enemy continually increasing, and the necessity of opening the communication, & acting on the defensive, becoming more apparent, I had previous to detaching Colonels McArthur & Cass on the 11th instant evacuated, and destroyed the Post on the opposite bank. On the 13th in the evening Genl Brock arrived at Amherstburg about the hour Colonels McArthur & Cass marched, of which at that time I had received no information. On the 15th I received a summons from him to surrender Fort Detroit of which the paper marked A is a copy my answer is marked B. At this time I had received no information from Colonels McArthur & Cass. An express was immediately sent strongly escorted with orders for them to return. On the 15th as soon as Genl Brock received my letter, his Batteries opened on the Town, and Fort, and continued untill evening—In the evening all the British Ships of war came nearly as far up the river as Sandwich, three miles below Detroit at day light on the 16th (at which time I had received no information from Colonels McArthur & Cass, my expresses, sent the evening before, and in the night, having been prevented from passing by numerous bodies of Indians) the canonade recommenced, and in a short time I received information, that the British army and Indians were landing below the Spring wells, under the cover of their ships of war. At this time the whole effective force at my dis-

posal at Detroit did not exceed Eight hundred men. Being new troops, and unaccustomed to a camp life, having performed a laborious march; having been engaged in a number of battles & skirmishes in which many had fallen, and more had received wounds; in addition to which a large number being sick, and unprovided with medicine, and the comforts necessary for their situation; are the general causes by which the strength of the army was thus reduced. The Fort at this time was filled with women, and children, and the old and decriped people of the town & Country; they were unsafe in the town, as it was entirely open, and exposed to the enemys Batteries—back of the Fort, above or below it, there was no safety for them on account of the Indians. In the first instance, the enemys fire was principally directed against our batteries; towards the close it was directed against the Fort alone, and almost every shot, and shell had their affect.

It now became necessary, either to fight the enemy in the field; collect the whole force in the Fort; or propose terms of Capitulation. I could not have carried into the field more than six hundred men, and left any adequate force in the Fort. There were landed at that time of the Enemy a regular force of much more than that number, and twice the number of Indians. Considering this great inequality of force, I did not think it expedient to adopt the first measure. The second must have been attended with a great sacrifice of blood, and no possible advantage, because the contest could not have been sustained more than a day for the want of powder, and but a very few days for the want of provisions; In addition to this, Colonels McArthur &

Cass would have been in a most hazardous situation. I feared nothing but the last alternative. I have dared to adopt it—I well know the high responsibility of the measure, and I take the whole of it on myself. It was dictated by a sense of duty, and a full conviction of its expediency—The bands of savages which had then joined the British force were numerous beyond any former example. Their numbers have since increased, and the history of the Barbarions of the North of Europe does not furnish examples of more greedy violence than these savages have exhibited. A large portion of the brave & gallant officers and men, I commanded, would cheerfully have contested untill the last cartridge had been expended, and the bayonets had been worn to the sockets I could not not [sic] consent to the useless sacrifice of such brave men, when I knew it was impossible for me to sustain my situation. It was impossible in the nature of things that an army could have been furnished with the necessary supplys of provisions, military stores, clothing and comforts for the sick on pack horses, through a wilderness of two hundred miles, filled with hostile savages—It was impossible, Sir, that this little army, worn down by fatigue, by sickness, by wounds, and [?] could have supported itself not only against the collected force of the northern nations of Indians; but against the United strength of Upper canada, whose population consists of more than twenty times the number contained in the Territory of Michigan, aided by the principal part of the regular forces of the province, and the wealth and influence of the North West and other trading establishments among the Indians which have in their employment, and under their entire controul more than two thousand

white men. Before I close this dispatch it is a duty I owe my respectable associates in command, Colonels McArthur, Findly, Cass, and Lieut Colonel Miller, to express my obligations to them for the prompt and judicious manner they have performed their respective duties. If aught has taken place during the campaign, which is honorable to the army, these officers are entitled to a large share of it—If the last act should be disapproved, no part of the censure belongs to them. I have likewise to express my obligations to Genl Taylor who has performed the duty of Q M General for his great exertions in procuring every thing in his department which it was possible to furnish for the convenience of the army, likewise to Brigade Major Jessup for the correct and punctual manner in which he has discharged his duty, and to the army generally for their exertions, and the zeal they have manifested for the public interest. The death of Doctor Foster soon after he arrived at Detroit was a severe misfortune to the army; it was increased by the Capture of the Chachaga packet by which the medicine, and Hospital stores were lost. He was commencing the best arrangements in the department of which he was the principal, with the very small means he possessed. I was likewise deprived of the necessary services of Capt Patridge by sickness, the only officer of the corps of engineers attached to the army. All the officers and men have gone to their respective homes excepting the 4th U S Regt, and a small part of the 1st and Capt Dysons Compy of Artillery—Capt Dysons company was left at Amherstburg, and the others are with me prisoners—They amount to about three hundred and forty. I have only to solicit as early an

investigation of my conduct, as my situation, and the state of things will admit; and to add the further request, that the Government will not be unmindful of my associates in captivity, and of the families of those brave men who have fallen in the contest. I have the honor to be

very respectfully your most
obedt servt
W Hull. B. Genl comg
The N.W. Army.

Hon. W Eustis Secretary of U.S.
the department of War

Capitulation of Detroit

[Enclosure in Hull to Eustis, Aug. 26]

Head Quarters at Detroit 16th Augt 1812

General Orders—

It is with pain & anxiety, that Brigadier General Hull announces to the North western Army that he has been compelled from a sense of duty, to agree to the following Articles of Capitulation.

Camp at Detroit 16th Augt 1812—

Capitulation for the surrender of Fort Detroit, entered into between Major General Brock, commanding his Brittanic Majesties forces, on the one part and Brigadier General Hull commanding the North Western Army of the United States on the other part.—

1st Fort Detroit with all the troops regular as well as Militia will be immediately surrendered to the British Forces under the command of Major General

Brock and will be considered Prisoners of War, with the exception of such of the Militia of the Michigan Territory who have not joined the Army.—

2d All public Stores Arms, and all public documents including every thing else of a public nature will be immediately given up.

3d Private persons and property of every description will be respected

4th His Excellency Brigadier General Hull having expressed a desire that a detachment from the State of Ohio on its way to join his Army as well as one sent from Fort Detroit under the Command of Colonel McArthur, should be included in the above capitulation it is accordingly agreed to, it is however to be understood, that such part of the Ohio Militia as have not joined the Army will be permitted to return to their homes, on condition that they will not serve during the War, their Arms however will be delivered up if belonging to the Public.

5th The Garrison will march out at the hour of twelve o clock this day, and the British Forces will take immediate possession of the Fort.—

J. McDonel—Lt Col Militia
P.A.D.C.
J.B. Gegg [sic]—Major A. D. C.

Approved
W. Hull B. Genl
Commanding the N.W. Army

James Miller Lt Col
5th U.S. Inft
E. Brush Cap 1 Reg
Michigan Militia

Approved
Isaac Brock
Major General

The Army at twelve oclock this day, will march out of the East Gate, where they will stack their arms, and will be then subject to the Articles of capitulation

W Hull B. Genl Comg—

An article, supplemental to the Articles of Capitulation, concluded at Detroit the 16th of Augt 1812—

It is agreed that the Officers and Soldiers of the Ohio Militia and Volunteers shall be permitted to proceed to their respective homes, on this condition that they are not to serve during the present war, unless they are exchanged—

W Hull B. Genl Comg.
N.W. Army U.S.
Isaac Brock
Major General

I.B.
WH.

Elijah Wadsworth to Eustis

Head Quarters Camp at
Cleaveland August 27th 1812

Honble William Eustis Secretary at War

Sir I have the honor to inform you that on the 23d Inst. I received information by express from this place of the Surrender of the Northwestern Army and the fort at Detroit to the British by General Hull on the 16th Inst. A Copy of the Articles of Capitulation I send

inclosed,—Considering the defenceless Situation of the western frontier, my duty impelled me instantly to issue orders to the Several Commanders of the four Brigades under my Command to detach their drafts composing a part of the 100,000 Militia— On the 23d I repaired with a Company of Light Dragoons to this place, where I have established my head quarters, where the troops will be organized and disciplined as they arrive. Brigadier Genl Simon Perkins Commandant of the 3d Brigade, and Brigadier Genl Joel Paine Commandant of the 4th Brigade had previous to recieving my orders required from their respective Brigades one half of the effective men— on my way hither I recd information by express that about 1000 Indians had landed at Huron River— I immedialy Issued orders to Generals Reasin Beall & Perkins to march with all possible speed, the whole of their respective Brigades to Cleaveland—on my arrival at this place I was happy to learn that instead of the savages having landed as was feared, they were the unfortinate Officers and Soldiers surrendered by General Hull—Not expecting an immediate Attack from the Indians, and believing that an armistice had been entered into by Genl Dearborn & Sir George Prevost, as I had been informed I thought proper this day, so far to countermand my last orders to Generals Beall and Perkins, as to require only one thousand men from their Brigades three hundred from the first Brigade, and two hundred from the 4th—I was in some degree compelled to this measure from the great difficulty in procuring provisions, there being no publick Stores and the Country new. And also on account of the great scarcity of arms, ammunition and Camp equipage. My order to Genl

Perkins required of him to repair immediately to Cleaveland on giving the necessary orders and making arrangements for the march of his Brigade, he arrived at this place last evening, and it being important to protect the frontier, and to Station a force which should Allay the fears of the Inhabitants who were remaining on the Huron I ordered him to take the Command of a Battallion until officers of a suitable Grade should arrive, and march to Huron River— This detachment would have marched tomorrow morning, had I not conceived it a duty imposed upon me from the peculiar embarrassed situation of affairs in the western Country to open such of the communications as were addressed to Genl Hull from the Secretary at War which arrived last evening by the express mail. It is unnecessary at present for me to advert particularly to these communications, from them however I learned that an armistice had not been agreed to by the Government, which convinced me of the hazardous situation in which so small a body of men must be placed at this [westward?]—
as soon as a sufficient number of troops shall arrive I intend to detach a force sufficient to protect the Inhabitants from the incursions of the Indians and prevent if possible an invasion by the British of the Country east of the Sandusky—Every exertion in my power will be made to procure amunition, Camp equipage and such articles as are necessary for a Campaign, but munitions of war are principally owned by Government, I have applied to the Commandant of the Garrison at Pittsburgh for those article[s] which I deemed indispensably necessary, stating the defenceless situation of the Country and the prospect of an immediate attack from the

Savages, but his duty would not permit him to comply with my request. I have procured some supplies on my own responsibility and shall continue to use my Credit for that purpose, but it will be totally out of my power to fullfil my engagements unless assisted by the Goverment.

By Mr Huntington in Company with Col. Cass whom I sent express on the 24th you will be informed of many particulars which I have not time to relate.

I have the honor to be
with Respect your Obedient
Servant.
ELIJAH WADSWORTH
Majr Genl 4th Division
Ohio Militia

DAVID MEAD TO JAMES MADISON

Erie, Penna., Augt. 29th 1812

Sir,

On the evening of the 16th Inst. I was apprised at Meadville of the surrender of Detroit with the whole of the Army under Brigr Genl Hull, and that a number of British vessels were hovering on our coast in sight of this place, in consequence of the alarming situation of the frontier of Pennsylvania bordering upon Lake Erie in circumstances so extraordinary I proceeded immediately with a number of volunteers and arrived here on the 17th—

Having since my arrival collected from various sources of undoubted credit the particulars of the surrender, and

the Surprising nature of these as well as of the event itself leaving doubts whether a full and correct communication of all the facts and circumstances may have been duly made to you I have deemed it my duty as well towards the United States as on behalf of this frontier to communicate without delay, the information I have obtained on the subject—

The bearer Capt. Daniel Dobbins is a man of intelligence and good character who may be fully credited and having been present and made prisoner at the capture both of Michilimacanac and Detroit is able to communicate all the material details—

Capt Dobbins was part owner and commander of the American Schooner Selina, and has lost his vessel with his summers labour and is thrown out of employment, by those captures—It appears by his statement and papers that after his release under the capitulation of Michilimackinac his vessel was detained at Detroit by order of Genl Hull from proceeding on her voyage and consequently recaptured with that place—

The substance of Capt Dobbins statement respecting the siege and surrender of Detroit is that an inferior force on the part of the enemy was permitted without resistance for two or three days to prepare and complete a battery upon the opposite bank on the spot from which Genl Hull had withdrawn— That after a fire from the battery continued from 6 to 11 P M on the 15th and from day light to 6 or 7 oclock on the 16th upon the town and garrison, although with no other effect than the loss of five men and some inconsiderable injury, the enemy effected a landing on our shore, when resistance ceased, then marched in close column from the place of

landing, in the face of our canon and flanked by our troops, completed the capitulation and received possession by 12 oclock the same day, the surrender being virtually unconditional containing as appears not a single reservation, of which the usages of war Authorized the surrender in any case—

That the whole force of the captors including indians and militia was less than one thousand men.—

At this place about eight hundred men recently ordered by the Governor are now under arms and expected today —On yesterday an attack from an Armed brig was hourly expected from about one oclock to six P M, when she appeared to tow off—About midnight a communication was received by Brigadere Genl Ki[?] purporting to be from the Capt on board dispatched by his Lieut announcing an Armistice between great Britain and the U.S—The Communication comes however under circumstance questionable and suspicious the Lieut as mentioned did not come on this nor any belonging to the vessel, but was landed by the owner of an american boat, which had been taken and released—Nor has any official or satisfactory information in relation to an armistice been received at this place—Rumour and conjecturs are in some currancy and the best is hoped for, whatever its general effect may be if true it appears now necessary to the safety of this place at which the whole of Genl Brocks army might assemble with little more difficulty than at Detroit unless guarded by an efficient force—

For further particulars permit me to refer to the intelligence of the bearer, who goes to Washington at my request and whose expenses I have to request you will order paid—

The case of Capt Dobbins appears to be a bad one, he may wish to detail its particulars and to become informed how far he may expect indemnity from government— I will humbly add that should there be any vacancy for employing Capt Dobbins in some active capacity such as he might accept I with great confidence recommend him as a man capable trustworthy and highly patriotic—and have the honour to be—

Sir,

Your Obt. Humb Servt—
David Mead Majr.
Genl 16 Division Pennsya
Militia

His Excellency
James Madison, President
of the United States

Lewis Cass to Eustis

Washington, Septr. 10th 1812

Sir,

Having been ordered on to this place by Col McArthur, for the purpose of communicating to the Government such particulars respecting the expedition lately commanded by Brig. Gen. Hull and it's disastrous result, as might enable them correctly to appreciate the conduct of the officers and men and to develope the causes, which produced so foul a stain upon the national character, I have the honour to submit to your consideration the following statement. When the forces landed in Canada, they landed with an ardent zeal and stimulated with the

hope of conquest. No enemy appeared within view of us, and had an immediate and vigorous attack been made upon Malden, it would doubtless have fallen an easy victory. I know Gen. Hull afterwards declared, he regretted this attack had not been made and he had every reason to believe success would have crowned his efforts. The reason given for delaying our operations, was to mount our heavy Canon and to afford to the Canadian Militia time and opportunity to quit an obnoxious service. In the course of two weeks, the number of their Militia, who were embodied, had decreased by desertion from six hundred to one hundred men, and in the course of three weeks, the Canon were mounted, the ammunition fixed and every preparation made for an immediate investment of the Fort. At a counsel, at which were present all the field officers, and which was held two days before our preparations were completed, it was unanimously agreed to make an immediate attempt to accomplish the object of the expedition. If by waiting two days we could have the service of our heavy artillery, it was agreed to wait, if not it was determined to go without it and to attempt the place by storm. This opinion appeared to correspond with the views of the General and the day was appointed for commencing our march. He declared to me, that he considered himself pledged to lead the army to Malden. The ammunition was placed in the waggons, the Canon were embarked on board the floating batteries, and every requisite article was prepared. The spirit and zeal, the ardor and animation displayed by the officers and men on learning the near accomplishment of their wishes was a sure and sacred pledge, that in the hour of trial, they would not

be found wanting in their duty to their Country and themselves. But a change of measures, in opposition to the wishes and opinions of all the Officers was adopted by the General. The plan of attacking Malden was abandoned, and instead of of [sic] acting offensively, we broke up our Camp, evacuated Canada and recrossed the river in the night, without even the shadow of an enemy to injure us. We left to the tender mercy of the enemy the miserable Canadians, who had joined us, and the *protection* we afforded them was but a passport to vengeance. This fatal and unaccountable step dispirited the troops and destroyed the little confidence, which a series of timid, irresolute and indecesive measures had left in the Commanding Officer.

About the tenth of August, the enemy received a reinforcement of four hundred men. On the twelfth the Commanding officers of three of the Regiments, the fourth was absent, were informed thro' a medium, which admitted of no doubt, that the General had stated that a capitulation would be necessary. They on the same day addressed to Gov. Meigs of Ohio a letter, of which the following is an extract.

"Believe all the bearer will tell you. Believe it however it may astonish you; as much as if told you by one of us. Even a C..... is talked of by the .
The bearer will fill the vacancy".

The doubtful fate of this letter rendered it necessary to use circumspection in its details, and therefore these blanks were left. The word capitulation will [fill] the first and Commanding General the other. As no enemy was near us and as the superiority of our force was manifest, we could see no necessity for capitulating, nor

any propriety in alluding to it. We therefore determined in the last resort to incur the responsibility of divesting the General of his command. This plan was eventually prevented by two of the Commanding officers of regiments being ordered upon detachment.

On the 13th the British took a position opposite to Detroit and began to throw up works. During that and the two following days, they pursued their object without interruption and established a battery for two eighteen pounders, and an eight inch howitzer. About sunset on the evening of the 14th, a detachment of 350 men from the Regiments commanded by Colo McArthur and myself was ordered to march to the River Raisin, to escort the provisions, which had some time remained there protected by a party under the command of Capt. Brush. On Saturday the 15th about 1 o'clock, a flag of truce arrived from Sandwich, bearing a summons from Gov. Brock, for the surrender of the Town and Fort of Detroit, stating he could no longer restrain the fury of the savages. To this an immediate and spirited refusal was returned. About 4 o'clock their batteries began to play upon the Town. The fire was returned and continued without interruption and with little effect till dark. Their shells were thrown till eleven o'clock. At day light the firing on both sides recommenced. About the same time the enemy began to land troops, at the spring wells three miles below Detroit, protected by two of their armed vessels. Between 6 and 7 o'clock they had effected their landing and immediately took up their line of march. They moved in a close column of platoons, twelve in front, upon the bank of the River.

The fourth Regiment was stationed in the Fort, the

Ohio volunteers and a part of the Michigan Militia behind some pickets in a situation, in which the whole flank of the enemy would have been exposed. The residue of the Michigan Militia were in the upper part of the Town to resist the incursions of the Savages. Two twenty four pounders loaded with grape shot were posted upon a commanding eminence ready to sweep the advancing column. In this situation, the superiority of our position was apparent and our troops in the eager expectation of victory, awaited the approach of the enemy. Not a sigh of discontent broke upon the ear, not a look of cowardice met the eye. Every man expected a proud day for his Country, and each was anxious, that his individual exertion should contribute to the general result. When the head of their column arrived within about five hundred yards of our line, orders were received from Gen. Hull for the whole to retreat to the Fort, and for the twenty four pounders not to open upon the enemy. One universal burst of indignation was apparent upon the receipt of this order. Those, whose conviction was the deliberate result of a dispassionate examination of passing events, saw the folly and impropriety of crowding 1100 men into a little work, which 300 could fully man, and into which the shot and shells of the enemy were continually falling. The Fort was in this manner filled, the men were directed to stack their arms, and scarcely was an opportunity afforded of moving. Shortly after a white flag was hung out upon the walls. A British officer rode up to enquire the cause. A communication passed between the Commanding Generals, which ended in the capitulation submitted to you. In entering into this capitulation, the General took counsel from his own

feelings only. Not an Officer was consulted. Not one anticipated a surrender, till he saw the white flag displayed. Even the women were indignant at so shameful a degradation of the American character. And all felt as they should have felt, but he who held in his hands the reins of authority,

Our morning report of that morning made our number of effective men present fit for duty 1060, without including the detachment before alluded and without including 300 of the Michigan Militia on duty. About dark on Saturday evening the detachment sent to escort the provisions received orders from Gen. Hull to return with as much expedetion as possible. About ten o'clock the next day they arrived within sight of Detroit. Had a firing been heard, or any resistance visible, they would have immediately advanced and attacked the rear of the enemy. The situation, in which this detachment was placed, altho the result of accident, was the best for annoying the enemy and cutting off his retreat that could have been selected. With his raw troops enclosed between two fires and no hopes of succour, it is hazarding little to say, that very few would have escaped.

I have been informed by Colo. Findlay, who saw the return of their Quarter Master General the day after the surrender, that their whole force of every descreption white red and black was 1030. They had twenty nine platoons, twelve in a platoon, of men dressed in uniform. Many of these were evidently Canadian Militia. The rest of their Militia increased their white force to about 700 men. The number of their Indians could not be ascertained with any precision. Not many were visible. And in the event of an attack upon the Town and Fort, it

was a species of force which could have afforded no material advantage to the enemy.

In endeavouring to appreciate the motives and to investigate the causes which led to an event so unexpected and dishonourable, it is impossible to find any solution in the relative strength of the contending parties, or in the means of resistance in our power. That we were far superior to the enemy, that upon any ordinary principles of calculation we could have defeated them, the wounded and indignant feelings of every man there will testify.

A few days before the surrender, I was informed by Gen. Hull we had 400 rounds of 24 pound shot fixed and about 100,000 cartidges made, We surrendered with the Fort 40 barrels of powder and 2500 stand of arms.

The state of our provisions has not been generally understood. On the day of the surrender we had fifteen days provisions of every kind on hand. Of meat there was plenty in the Country, and arrangements had been made for purchasing and grinding the flour, It was calculated we could readily procure three months provisions, independent of 150 barrels of flour & 300 head of cattle which had been forwarded from the State of Ohio, and which remained at the River Raisin under Capt. Brush within reach of the Army.

But had we been totally destitute of provisions, our duty and our interest undoubtedly was to fight. The enemy invited us to meet him in the field. By defeating him the whole Country would have been open [to] us, and the object of our expedition gloriously, and successfully attained. If we had been defeated we had nothing to do but to retreat to the Fort, and make the best defence

which circumstances and our situation rendered practicable. But basely to surrender without firing a gun, tamely to submit without raising a bayonet, disgracefully to pass in review before an enemy as inferior in the quality as in the number of his forces were circumstances, which excited feelings of indignation more easily felt than described To see the whole of our men flushed with the hope of victory, eagerly awaiting the approaching contest, to see them afterwards dispirited, hopeless and desponding at least 500 shedding tears because they were not allowed to meet their Country's foe, and to fight their Country's battles, excited sensations, which no American has ever before had cause to feel, and which I trust in God will never again be felt, while one man remains to defend the standard of the Union. I am expressly authorized to state that Col. McArthur, Col. Findlay and Lt. Col. Miller view this transaction in the light, in which I do. They know and feel, that no circumstance in our situation, none in that of the enemy can excuse a capitulation so dishonourable and unjustifiable. This too is the universal sentiment among the troops. And I shall be surprized to learn, that there is one man, who thinks it was necessary to sheath his sword, or to lay down his musket.

I was informed by Gen. Hull the morning after the capitulation, that the British forces consisted of 1800 regulars, and that he surrendered to prevent the effusion of human blood. That he magnified their regular force nearly five fold there can be no doubt. Whether the philanthropical reason assigned by him is a sufficient justification for surrendering a fortified Town, an Army and a Territory is for the Government to determine.

Confident I am, had the courage and conduct of the General been equal to the spirit and zeal of the troops, the event would have been as brilliant & successful as it now is disastrous and dishonourable.

Very respectfully
Sir
I have the honour to be
yr. mo. obt. Servt.
Lewis Cass.
Col. 3d R.O.V.

The Honble William Eustis
Secy of war.

James Taylor to Eustis

Urbana Ohio
September 15th 1812

Sir

I have the honor to inform you, that I arrived here on the 13th inst. Colo Findlay and myself brought up the rear of the troops from Detroit & Malden, and reached Cleveland on the 8th. Genl Wadsworth, Genl Findlay & myself held a consultation and we conceived it of importance that the commanding officer at Ft Niagary & of the N.W. Army should possess without dalay all the information we possesed relative to Detroit & Ft Malden. It was therefore concluded that Genl Findlay should take the Lake rout and should continue on to Genl Dearborn's head quarters & then on to the City and that I should take on some dispatches just received from your department to Gov Meigs & Genl Winchester, and give them all the information in my power. I have found

Gov Meigs here & the Genl is expected here this day. Genl Harrison has gone on with the Kentucky Troops to Ft Wayne. Genl McArthur reached this last night and we contemplate going on to Gov. Harrisons head quarters in order to aid as mutch as in our power our preesnt Army to repair the loss the late Army under the command of Genl Hull has caused the Government to sustain; or more property that Genl Hull has caused the U. States to lose both in character and interest. This is the first moment I could devote to give you a line since we landed on our own shore. At Cleveland I was mutch indisposed and was every moment of my time imployed in providing means of transporting our unfortunate sick and wounded men & our baggage to their respective homes. I have the honor to inform you with pleasure that I have saved all my publick papers therefore shall be able to shew correctly how I have expended the publick money intrusted to my care I was compeled to give up to the enemy Four Thousand Dollars of publick money Silver I had between two & three thousand dollars in bank notes which I managed to save by confiding them to a friend during the negotiation for the Surrender this friend being a resident and one from his connection on the Canada Side I was confident could keep it securely for me, and such was the fact.

I left Detroit on the 1st September & Ft Malden on the 3d Owing to the imprudence of Genl Hull I was verry apprehensive of being detained at Malden, He undertook to draw orders on me as Quartermaster Genl of the N.W. army in favor of two men on account of damage done and property taken while we were in Cannada to the amou[n]t of upwards of Forty five hundred pounds N.Y.

currency and I was pressed to draw bills on my government for the amount. I positively refused to draw for one cent, my reasons were demanded, I observed 1st that I did not conceive myself under the controul of Genl Hull (for he had embarked) 2dly that I had given up my public money & 3dly & lastly that I was determined not to degrade myself or my government further than we had been, that I was convinced that my bills would not [be] honored if I was to draw in their favor, & again that, they had detained all the Waggons & Horses Rifles Cavalry Horses & equipments in violation to the capitulation and that no provision was made by the capitulation for the Payment of these claims. They threatened me with detention if I did not draw, telling me Genl Brock had declared neither Genl Hull nor myself should be set at liberty till the claims were paid I told them they might use their pleasure that my mind was made up & that If I was to suffer seven years detention I should not comply. That I should hold them individually responsibly to me for any outrage and that my goverment would retaliate on the British Goverment for any breach of the capitulation, and I assure you I did expect to be detained till I left the Harber of Malden. Previous to my leaving Detroit I made out a formal protest against the British taking the Waggons & Horses they being private property & continued to be so under the Capitulation Capt J.W. Sloan also protested as to the taking the cavalry Horses & Equipments & Genl Findlay being the Senior officer there protested against the taking of all the Rifles except about 17, (Public ones) & also certain of the officers Horses and embraced our protest in his, so as to take a Genl view of the Subject. I had two setts

of these papers made out and delivered one to Majr Muir Commanding officer at Detroit, of which he acknowledge Service. This paper I shall send on to you as soon as I get home It is gone with the baggage in my trunk of papers

I have the honor to be with great respect

Sir

Your Obedt Servt

Honble William Eustis — James Taylor

Secy of War

Washington City

[Endorsed]

Urbana Sept 15 1812
James Taylor States his
arrival—the sick & wounded
have been sent home. Had to
give up to the enemy 4000
dollars, saved his papers &
some bank notes, was threat-
ened after being a prisoner
with confinement if he did
not draw bills on the Govt—
refused &C &C.
Recd Sept. 29. 1812

A. Edwards to Eustis

Hon: Secty at war,

Dayton September 17th 1812.

Sir,

Genl Hull on his arrival at this place about the time he took command of the N.W. army informed me that in

a conversation with the Secretary at War he had been authorized to appoint me Surgeon of the 4th Regt. Infy. and accordingly issued an Order dated at Urbana appointing me as such and requiring all officers to obey and respect me accordingly In which capacity as well as acting Hospital Surgeon I Served untill the capitulation at Detroit the Appointment not being confirmed by the head of the Department of War and they not recognizing me as a regular officer I was permited to return home on the same footing as the Volunteers from Ohio—I am, on account of this procedure of Genl Hull's at a loss to know in what way to consider myself whether as Surgeon of the 4th Infy or as Captain of the 19th Infy I frankly acknowledge I would preffer the former named situation if agreable to the Secretary at War — —

With Great respect
Your Obt. H. Sert
A Edwards

Hon. William Eustis
Secty at War
Washington

Whistler to [?]

City of Washington 6th October 1812.

Sir,

Agreeably to the request of the honourable secretary of War, I have here stated to you the facts of such circumstances as came within my knowledge of the surrender of Detroit &c. On the arrival of Brigadier General Hull with his army, I made a report to him (my being

then the commanding officer of that fort) of all the stores belonging thereto. In the magazine there were one hundred barrels of powder, said to contain 1 Cwt each, the fixed ammunition I am not certain of the quantity, but in the return of ordnance and military stores forwarded to Col. Burbeck in June last gave an accurate account of the quantity. On the Generals arrival he ordered a number of men from the 4th Regt to make musket-cartridges. Some days after I made return of the number that were then made which were five thousand four hundred, and some more Dozens; the men were several days more at work: Part of the powder they made use of was brought with the army and deposited in the magazine. Two or three days before the capitulation of Detroit, I waited on the general on some publick business, he enquired of me what quantity of powder was on hand, I answered him, that I could not inform with accuracy; but, I believed there were fifty barrels. Immediately after Lieut Bacon (Quarter-Master) of the 4th Regt came in; the General enquired of him what quantity of powder there was from this question I have reason to believe that he ordered to examine the quantity, as he had charge of the men, who were at work, making the cartridges as already alluded to: Lieut Bacon's answer was forty eight barrels. On the morning of the 16th which was the day of capitulation, I was assisting in getting the powder, &c out of the magazine which stood some distance outside the fort, and removing it into a small magazine in the fort. We got a number of barrels and a quantity of fixed ammunition in, when the men wished to rest themselves. I found there was a number of barrels more as well as fixed ammunition to remove.

I agreed to rest before we commenced a second time.—I was standing near the General, when I observed Captain Hull come to him with a very dirty towel fixing it on a pole. I enquired of him what he meant to do with it—he replyed it was a flag of truce. I observed to him it was not fit for that purpose, it being so dirty. He persisted and I also to the contrary. A soldier standing by told him he would supply him with a clean one. He went off, and returned with a sheet as he said. The Captain then wanted to hoist it on the flag-staff. I observed to him it should not be hoisted thereon, as it could not be done without lowering the flag. He replyed then, that it would not take but a few minutes. I repeated that the flag should not be lowered as it must be a signal for the enemy that we had surrendered. At last the sheet was hoisted on one of the bastions; and the Captain went off with another flag from the fort. The General was standing by all the time of our conversation, and did not interfere. Previous to this conversation, I observed the General sheltering himself under the works, which rendered him secure from any of the enemy's shots, which might accidently get over the works. I do not recollect of his being absent from the fort, from the time of his first arrival there, on the evening of the 15th, when the cannonading first commenced, until the next day when he capitulated. All the enemy's shots that entered the works of the fort, or that done any damage thereto of any account were to the best of my belief, as follow: viz., one shell burst on the evening of the 15th at the back curtains of the fort, and wounded one militia man in the leg; on the 16th one ball (I believe to be an eighteen pounder) killed three officers, and wounded the fourth;

the second ball killed two privates; the third fell on the parade with out doing any damage; the fourth and last struck a chimney on the back part of the Fort. As near as I can recollect, a day or two before the General re-crossed the Detroit river, Mr Baird, the Contractor's agent came to my quarters for the Keys of the store houses, in which the Contractor's property was store[d]; I being then in the fort, I went with him and counted along with him the number of barrels of different articles that were then in the fort, which as near as my memory will admit of were as follow: viz.

300 Barrels of Flour,
48 Barrells of Pork
16 Barrels said to contain salt beef,
20 Barrels of Whiskey were then in store to the best of my belief.

From that time to the day of capitulation, I do not recollect of any provision to have been taken from the garrison more than twice, that is two waggon loads of flour. The night previous to the capitulation, the contractor's agent sent to the fort, a waggon with more flour, and several waggon loads of whiskey, as the contractor's property for the use of the army. There were at the same time between eight and nine hundred sheep, as the General himself informed me, taken from the British. The number of beef cattle I have no knowledge of. The army had been supplied with beef for some time previous to the capitulation: And none of the salt meat taken from the stores to my knowledge. I had the Keys of the stores in my possession.

J Whistler, Capt
1 Reg. Infy

A. Edwards to Eustis

Dayton Ohio October 16th 1812

Hon. William Eustis

Sir

Being ordered by Genl Hull to take charge of the Medical and Hospital Department of the Army under his command I am thereby made accountable for the different articles belonging to it and for which I beg leave to report to the Hon. Secretary at War—as follows. — — The medicine Hospital Stores and Instruments with the exception of Articles here in named were Either issued and used by our Troops or captured by the Enemy.

The following articles were saved the day of Capitulation of Fort Detroit and are in my charge except as here in explained. — —

1 Case Amputating Instruments
2 Do Trepaning - - - - Do - - - -
1 Do Pocket - - - - - - Do - - - -
2 Metalc Cathiters
1 Coopers Surgery
1 Cullens Practice
1 Duncans Dyspensatory

The [?] Amt of monies in my hands from Sales of Hospital Whiskey — —

1 Case pocket Instruments in possession of Dr. Este Surgeon of Colo Cass Regt. Ohio Volunteer
1 Case Teeth Insts in charge of Dr. Este &c—
1 Do Pocket Insts in charge of Dr. Turner Surgeon to Colo Findleys Regt. Ohio Volunteers.——
1 Case Pocket Instruments in possesson of Doctor Go-

dell Surgeons mate of Colo McArthurs Regt. Ohio Volunteers.—

I should have made this report immediately on my arrival from Detroit, but there was Some Articles left by Order of the General at Findley's Block House, and which articles, I have but just heard were in hands of the Enemy.—

As I was the only person acting as Surgeon and being a regular officer, I hope to be exchanged for the Surgeon of the Guerriere.—

Will I be permitted to draw pay as Hospital Surgeon while performing that duty?—

Respectful Your Obt. Sert.
A. Edwards

Hon. William Eustis
Secty at War

Late Acting Hospital
Surgeon N:W: Army

Hull to Eustis

Newton (Mass) October 19th 1812.

Sir—

On the 9th of Septr last, Sir George Prevost permitted me to return to the U.S. a prisoner of War, on my parole of honor, not to serve in any capacity whatever, untill regularly exchanged. I am now at this place, waiting for any communication, the government may please to make—

I am very respectfully, your
most obedt Servt
W Hull

Hon. W Eustis, Secretary of
the department of War.

Hull to Eustis

Newton (Mass) 26th Octobr 1812

Sir — —

When I left Cincinnati in may last, the annuities and presents for the Indians under my superintendance, had not arrived at that place—I left orders to have them forwarded to Fort Wayne. I never received any part of them, and presume I shall not be made accountable for them — —

I received your letter, informing me, you had deposited ten thousand in the bank of Pittsburg, four thousand of which was to defray the expences of the Indian department, and six thousand for the contingent expences, of the Army under my command.

It was not in my power to procure money for bills on Pittsburg, but it was on albany—I therefore obtained money for which you had made the deposit, and engaged to pay it in Albany, at periods which were stipulated, with an intention of transferring from Pittsburg to the bank in Albany— The hazardous situation of the communication, and other circumstances prevented it from being done, untill the capitulation took place—On my arrival in Albany, the payments had become due, and I had no other mode of meeting them, than by giving an order in favor of the bank of Albany on the bank of Pittsburg, for the money you had deposited for the purpose of making those payments—

Yesterday, I received a letter from the Cashier of the bank of Albany, informing me that my bill was protested,

and the protest states, that payment was refused in consiquence of instructions from the Secretary of War—

I considered myself accountable for that money, and that it was my duty to apply it to the purposes for which it was deposited.—money for those was obtained in the way, I have mentioned, and that deposit was the only fund, to make the payments, I had engaged,—

The expences of the Indian department had been accumulating from the 1st of January to the time of the Capitulation, near two thirds of a year—The contingent expences of the Army, from the time I took the command, to the day of the capitulation—My papers have been separated from me, by causes which I could not controul, and I have not as yet been able to obtain them— I cannot therefore at present forward my account with the vouchers.

I have made this statement, more with a view of satisfying you of the propriety of my giving the order for the money, than for any other purpose—

I have not received one dollar of public money on account of my pay as a public Officer, or on any other account, since I left Washington—At that time all my public accounts were settled, and nothing was due from me to the public. I am now only solicitous to fullfill the private engagements, my duty has compelled me to make, on account of the public—

If you should think expedient to enable me to do it, it would be convenient to me, for you to retain the ten thousand deposited at Pittsburg, and make a deposit of the same sum, or such sum as you may think proper, in one of the banks in Boston, subject to my Order, for the

purposes above mentioned, for which I shall be accountable—

I am respectfully, your most
Obedt Servt.
W Hull

Hon. W Eustis
S.D. War.

Hull to Eustis

Newton (Mass) 27th October
1812.

Sir—

The contract which I made with J. Piatt & Co when I first took the command of the Army, in the State of Ohio to furnish the supplies of provisions for one month, has been complied with on their part — — —

The Contract which I afterwards made with the same company to furnish two hundred thousand rations, had not in any part been complied with at the time of the capitulation—

They had furnished no part of the provisions stipulated for in that contract—

I am respectfully your most
Obedt Servt
W Hull

Hon W Eustis
Secry Dept of War.

Cass to [Eustis]

Zanesville Nov. 6th 1812

Sir,

Since my return, I find that a considerable body of troops have been and yet continue to be stationed round the Town of Mansfield on the head waters of the Muskingun This force is considered necessary to protect the frontiers and without it many settlements would be abandoned. I would suggest to you the propriety of ordering a large portion of my regiment to relieve those troops. I find a very general wish among the Officers and men to continue during the winter actively employed. Drafting militia is an ungrateful and invidious business and ought to be resorted to only when the other force cannot be obtained. The propriety of employing the volunteers against the Indians cannot be questioned, and no enemy but an Indian will ever make his appearance in that part of the Country. Once give a man a taste of a military life and he ever after appears to be attached to it. Continue these men in service actively engaged to the end of their term and my life for it, nearly all of them will renew their engagements for another period. Should this plan be adopted, a supply of muskets will be very necessary, but if they cannot be supplied perhaps rifles may be here procured.

Very respectfully

I am, Sir, yr. obt Servt

Lew Cass. Col. 3 R.

CASS TO [EUSTIS?]

Zanesville Nov. 6 1812

Private,

Sir,

I have since my return made particular enquiry into the present situation and future aspect of affairs in this Country. Sorry I am to be compelled to say, they by no means appear so favourable as I could wish. I much doubt if anything is to be expected this fall. You may rely upon it, the Militia are not to be depended for an offensive campaign. I really cannot describe to you the kind of field Officers in the Regiment from this Division. Men without energy talents or weight of character. I am informed by persons from the Camp, that a spirit of insubordination is universally prevalent. With such officers and troops in such a situation Harrison can effect little.

I am well convinced the drafted Militia will never cross the Detroit River. Such is the general opinion. A species of force must be resorted to whose voluntary engagements will compel them to march to any point where ordered. I think with proper officers, proper exertions and a small alteration of the law some Regiments of Volunteers could be raised in the state composed of the best young men in it. Should it be deemed necessary to raise them, I shall be happy to render any service in my power to promote the object.

Since the Militia have been drafted the recruiting business has wholly ceased, Such large sums are given for substitutes, that the bounty held out by Government

is no inducement to enlist Rely upon it that drafting must be abandoned for some species of voluntary engagement.

Yours respectfully Sir
I am yr. obt Serv
Lew Cass

Cass to [Armstrong]

Williamsville 11 miles east
of Buffaloe Jany 12th 1813

Sir,

I passed this day the ruins of Buffaloe. It exhibits a scene of distress and destruction, such as I have never before witnessed.

The events, which have recently transpired in this quarter have been so astonishing and unexpected, that I have been induced to make some enquiry into their causes and progress, and doubting whether you have recd any correct information upon the subject, I now trouble you with the detail.

The fall of Niagara has been owing to the most criminal negligence. The force in it was fully competent to its defence. The commanding officer Captain Leonard, it is confidently said, was at his own house three miles from the Fort, and all the Officers appear to have rested in as much security as though no enemy was near them. Capt. Rodgers and Capt. Hampton both of the twenty fourth had companies in the Fort. Both of them were absent from it. Their conduct ought to be strictly investigated. We shall never do anything honourable to

ourselves our [sic] useful to our Country until the present habitual negligence of Officers is corrected. It is an alarming and an increasing evil. I am also told, that Maj. Wallace of the fifth was in the Fort. He escaped and is now at Erie.

The circumstances attending the destruction of Buffaloe, you will have learned before this reaches you. But the force of the enemy has been greatly magnified. From the most careful examination I am satisfied, that not more than 650 men of regulars, militia and Indians landed at Black rock. To oppose these we had from 2500 to 3000 militia. All except very few of them behaved in the most cowardly manner. They fled without discharging a musket. The enemy continued on this side of the river till Saturday. All their movements betrayed symptons of apprehension. A vast quantity of property was left in the town uninjured and the Ariel, which lies four miles above upon the beach is safe. Since the first instant, they have made no movement. They continue in the possession of Niagara, and will probably retain, until a force competent to its reduction arrives in its vicinity.

Permit me, Sir, to say that an Officer of experience possessing the confidence of the Government and the publick should be sent without any loss of time to this quarter. The series of misfortunes which have happened may be traced to the selection of for a Commanding Officer. He lost the confidence of the people, and when he lost that, all hope of efficiency from them was gone. Gen. Hall is totally incompetent to the arduous task devolved upon him. Independent of other considerations a command of this magnitude should be conferred upon a regular officer.

I cannot paint to you the consternation of the Inhabitants. Some strange infatuation appears to have seized them. Five hundred British troops I am well convinced would march to Gennessee River, perhaps to Utica.

I left every thing tranquil at Detroit on the 21st Ulto. It is here supposed that the enemy are preparing an expedition to that quarter. I do not think they will make an attempt upon Detroit. Should they venture it, I am convinced they will have cause to regret it.

Excuse the haste, with which I write. I am surrounded by people and without the means of writing as I could wish.

Very respectfully, Sir
I have the honour to be
yo. mo. obt Servt
LEW CASS

Gen. Drummond commands now
in upper Canada.

CASS TO [?]

Near Zanesville Feby. 4th. 1813.

Sir,

I take the liberty of informing you, that I deem Solomon Sibley Esq residing in Marietta a material witness in behalf of the prosecution now depending against Brig. Gen. Hull. Mr Sibley is a lawyer of character and intelligence, who has lived several years at Detroit. I am satisfied the observations he has made and can communi-

cate will throw some light upon the causes of a transaction which that trial is intended to develope.

Very respectfully
Sir
I have the honour to be
yo. mo. obt. Servt
LEW CASS

SAMUEL WELLS TO THOMAS CUSHING

Jefferson County Kentucky
9th February 1813.

Sir

I left Genl Harrison at his Camp on Carrying River fifteen miles from the Rapids of the Miamie River on the 25th Ultimo, with dispatches from him to His Excellency Governor Shelby of this State, and delivered them to him on the 2nd Inst—I am directed by the General to remain in this State on the Recruiting buisness till further orders.

I have had the misfortune to loose the greatest part of my small command in an engagement with the British and Indians at the River Raisin. The loss my command sustained from the best accounts I have been able to collect is as follows; viz: Capts Mead, Hightower, & Edwards. Lieuts Graves, Logan, Holder, Tho. Overton, Garrett & Jas Overton aide to Genl Winchester, Ensigns, Shearer, Munday, Baker & Butler, Surgeon Montgomery, with one hundred and eighty non-commissioned officers, Musicians and Privates, also my Ensign Wells of the 7th Regt Infantry, who was doing duty with me. The cir-

cumstances which lead to this disaster and the occasion of my not being among the unfortunate, I will endeavour to State in as few words as my feelings will admit.

Genl Winchester at the head of the left wing of the N.W. Army arrived and encamped at the Rapids of the Miamie on the 10th Ulto; on the 16th at night he called the field Officers together and asked their opinions on the subject of detaching a part of his command, and sending them to the River Raisin. When I found his object was to detach, I opposed it in the Strongest terms my understanding would permit me, but all in vain, the next morning a detachment of four hundred and fifty men, was sent on under the command of Lieut Colo Lewis, and on the same day at one O'clock another detachment of one hundred men under the command of Lieut Colo Allen followed the first. On the 18th at 3 O'clock in the evening both detachments arrived at the River Raisin, attacked and defeated a party of the British and Indians who were there. The Battle ground was leavel and the greater part open fields, for a considerable distance around them. At night the Detachment encamped at the Village on the bank of the River where the action commenced; about two hours before day the news of the battle reached Genl Winchester's camp at the Rapids of the Miami. The Genl then ordered me on with a reinforcement of Two hundred and fifty men, I left the Rapids between 10 and 12 in the morning of the 19th with two hundred men, leaving fifty men under the Command of a Captain to bring on the baggage by order of the General. The Genl moved on a head of my detachment in a Carreall, and arrived at the River Raisin some time in the night of the same day. On the 20th at 2 O'clock

P. M. I reached the River Raisin with my Detachment and encamped on the ground assigned me by the Brigade Major. I then waited on the Genl to know if the troops were to remain in that order during the night. He told me they were. I then left him and waited on him again the next morning to find out what he intended to do, to make our situation more secure. He told me he would look for ground to encamp on, and ordered me to accompany him. At 11 O'clock the Genl Lieuts Colos Lewis, Allen and myself assembled, and rode round in search of a suitable situation, till half past 2 O'clock. By that time I began to think our situation very precarious. A man had just arrived from Malden and informed us that the British and Indians would attack us on Saturday the 23rd in the morning. Among other things I asked the Genl if it would not be advisable to send out Spies to Browns Town Sixteen miles toward Malden. He answered he would do it tomorrow.

I having had considerable experience in the Indian mode of War fair, and seeing nothing I could say had the desired effect, I requested the Genl to permit me to go to the rapids to see Genl Harrison; he told me to call at his quarters in the evening and he would give me an answer. I accordingly called on him about an hour before sun down and obtained leave to go.

I set out in a Carreall a little after sun down, and arrived at the Rapids on the morning of the 22nd at one O'clock, where I found Genl Harrison, informed him of the situation of the Troops at the River Raisin and of the expected attack. About sun rise I set out on my return and had got within about eighteen miles of the River Raisin when I met with such information as sat-

isfied me that Genl Winchester was completely defeated. I then turned back with the melancholy news; and met Genl Harrison with about seven hundred men on his way to reinforce Genl Winchester, who after some conversation with me turned back with [ms. defaced] to the Rapids and directed me to return again towards River Raisin to see what further discoveries I could make; I did so and got back again to Genl Harrison about nine O'clock at night without making any favourable discoveries. At 2 O'clock in the morning of the 23rd Genl Harrison ordered a retreat from the Rapids and we arrived at carrying River the same day.

I have the honor to be
with great respect
sir
Your most Obedient Servant
Saml Wells

Thos H Cushing Esqr
Adjutant General
U. States Army
Washington City.

Colo 7th Regt U. S. Infantry

Aaron Greeley to Armstrong

Washington City 27th February 1813

Sir,

I have taken the liberty of addressing to you a few lines on the subject of the proposals; by your approbation made by Benjn G. Orr & myself on the 11th Inst; for suplying the Northwestern army, and all troops that may be stationed, marched or recruited in the state of Ohio.

On thursday the 18th Inst Mr Lacock member of Congress from the Western part of the State of Pennsylvania, waited on you at the War Office. Mr Lacock then stated to you that if the contractor should fail in purchasing the supplies for the Army and having the same transported to, and lodged in the proper depots on the shores and waters of Lake Erie before the spring freshets subside; that if practicable, it would be impossible to procure provisions and transport them to the army without a verry great additional expence. You then observed that you would consider our proposals the first opportunity, and would again see me upon the subject in the course of a day or two—Accordingly on tuesday last in company with Mr Lacock I called at the War Office. I did not then see you, but was informed by Mr. Lacock that oweing to the pressure of business you could not then attend to the subject of our proposals but you would endeavor to do it next day—Early next morning Mr Orr and myself called at the War Office, and were informed by the first clerk Mr Parker that in the course of the day you would take our proposals into consideration, and make a decision We waited at the office untill half past three O'clock P.M. when Mr Parker informed us that it was out of your power then to attend to our proposals, but you would attend to them the first opportunity, and would inform us of the time by Note.

On the morning of the day following Mr Orr again called at the War Office, and was informed by Mr Parker that the reason why the consideration of our proposals was delayed was, that he (Mr Parker)had been informed by Mr Davidson of this City; that it was the intention of a Gentleman residing in the State of Ohio, to make

proposals for this Contract: that he considered it his duty to give you this information. That you had postponed the Consideration of our bid, untill this person should make his proposals— The day following (Yesterday) Mr Orr waited on Mr Davidson and was informed by him that some time since a Gentleman of his acquaintance in the State of Ohio had written to him that it was his wish to make proposals for the Contract to supply the Northwestern army—but he was uncertain whether this person would come forward and make proposals or not—Mr Davidson also stated that it was not his intention on his own part to make a bid.—

Permit me sir to make a few remarks on the subject of these proposals—The delay that must occur in waiting for the proposals of Mr Davidsons friend (it being also uncertain whether they will be made or not) will lay the Contractor under serious difficulties if not totally disenable him from procuring and forwarding the supplyes for the army agreeable to his Contract; any person makeing proposals and entering into this Contract, when the spring is far advanced, possessing any previous knowledge of the country cannot do it with an expectation of fulfilling the same; for in addition to the difficulties that have already been verbally stated to you, a verry serious one occurs; which is, the western country is almost entirely drained of teams and horses for the service of the United States, which Service had been so severe that they are nearly all destroyed or disabled—

From the foregoing reasons it would be the height of folly and imprudence for Mr Orr and myself to engage in this contract, if you should think proper to comply with our proposals; unless we are enabled to purchase

and transport our supplyes in the proper season—
The principles that governed us in makeing the proposals for this contract, were to make them as low as we could be able to fulfill them under existing Circumstances, without loss to ourselves or disappointment to the public—before handing in our proposals to the War office they were shown to Mr Morrow member of Congress from the State of Ohio and several other members from the Western Country who were of Opinion that our proposals were reasonable, and as low as could be entered into with safety—On my own part I can truly state that they are as low as I should have consented to have made them, had I known at the time there had been other proposals for the same contract—

I believe our Securities to be unexceptionable they will be made known to you whenever you will please to require it and I suppose also that the various written recommendations which have been addressed to you in our favor, are sufficient to induce you to place the required confidence in us—

If you should not consider the foregoing reasons a sufficient inducement for you to decide on our proposals as soon as your convenience and the public service will admit; I must withdraw my name, for it would be presumption in me to think of fulfilling a contract; under the great disadvantages which a much further delay must incur—

I have the honor to be
Sir most respectfully
your Obedient humble Servt

The honorable
John Armstrong
Secty of War—

Aaron Greeley

McArthur to Armstrong

Chillicothe March 30th 1813

Dear Sir,

The situation of affairs in this quarter, which it is important that you should be acquainted with, is the only apology which I can offer for troubling you with this hasty note.

The frontier inhabitents of this state, are left destitue of all hopes of protection in time to save them, and repell savage invasion which is every day expected, some persons have already been killed and scalped in the neighbourhood of Piqua. Many of the inhabitents have already removed from their homes and some of them have left the State. The only company of United States Rangers, which was stationed on our lines have been discharged, at a time when their services were never so much needed. The Northwestern army has dwindled almost into nothing, the effective force from the best information, does not exceed 1500 and will in a few days, when the Virginia and Pennsylvania troops are discharged, be reduced to less than 500 men.

Great quantities of provisions and military stores are exposed at points far advanced in a wilderness, with a number of men perhaps insufficient to resist in a force which may be brought against them, and entirely incapible of affording any support to our frontier. The military stores at Sandusky are perhaps the most insecure, the ice is about to leave the lake, and there is but little to prevent their falling into the hands of the enemy. The Indians on our lines who profess friendship are per-

fectly acquainted both with the situation of our army and frontier, and I have every reason to believe that they are almost daily visited by hostile Indians, who carry every information to the British. This sir, you may think a strange and gloomy portrait of our affairs at present in the Western country; but from the best information I have been able to collect, it is no less strange than true.

When I left the City, I expected to have had the honor of a line from the department of war, ere this, but have not as yet, been favoured with a line. I understand, however, that Genl Cass has returned to Zanesville and is in possession of some instructions for me. Every day that the recruiting service is procrastinated will render it more difficult to obtain men. Very many who were not long since sanguine of success, are now much discouraged; The constant enquiry is, "Why did not Genl Harrison make a requisition of men, in time to supply the places of those whose term of service has expired?" or, "why is our frontier not guarded and the friendly Indians removed?"

I hope sir, that you will pardon me for the liberty which I have taken, I have no wish to be troublesome, but have thought it my duty to communicate facts as they appear to me to exist.

very respectfully
I have the honor to be
your Ob Hb servt
DUNCAN MCARTHUR

The Hon. John Armstrong
Secretary of War

Cass to Armstrong

Chillicothe March 31st 1813

Sir,

In order to avoid troubling you too much in detail, we have concluded to address you a joint letter upon those subjects in relation to which your instructions are requested. Among the forms transmitted to us is one for an enlistment. Until we can hear from you we have taken the responsibility of altering it. We are so well acquainted with the feelings and opinions of that description of people, which must compose the mass of our force, as to be perfectly convinced of the necessity of this alteration. Names are often things. The change from a Volunteer to a regular force is unfortunate. And the only method of counteracting the effects of this change is by approximating as nearly as possible to a Volunteer force, still keeping in view the great objects to be attained. We therefore request, that we may be permitted to draw up the terms of engagement, in such a manner as we may judge will be most conducive to the good of the service. It shall be so done as not to comprimit the publick interest.

With respect to Field officers, after the most dispassionate view of the subject, the following we think are the Gentlemen, who stand most prominent and whose appointments would best promote the publick interest.
For the 27th Regiment,
Simon Perkins of Warren Trumbull Cty for Colonel.
We know not if he would accept. His standing and military character gives him a claim to attention.

George Paul of St. Clairsville Belmont Cty for Lieutenant Colonel.
Both of these Gentlemen are Brigadier Genl. in the Militia.
Jeremiah R. Munson of Zanesville, Major.
Robert Morrison of St. Clairsville, Major.
For the 26th Regiment.
If Lt. Col. Robert Lucas be transfered to the Rangers then
Thomas B. Van Horne of Lebanon [?] Lieut Col
William A. Trimble of Hillsborough Major

We have taken the liberty of troubling you upon this subject in consequence of Maj. Trimbles letter, who informs us he writes by your direction. Such of these appointments as you may deem proper to make, it would be expedient to make as soon as convenient. The State is so large and the details which will devolve upon us, so multifarious, that without assistance it will be impracticable for us to execute them. Should you determine to appoint the Colonels immediately we think it would be better to leave the direction of the Regiments to us should the Government confer upon us a higher grade. We can still continue to superintend the arrangements necessary for the new corps, and you may rely upon every exertion being used to fill the regiments with dispatch

Very Respectfully, Sir,
We are yo. obt. Servts
Duncan McArthur
Lew Cass

[Endorsed]
Chilicothe March 31 1813
Genl McArthur & Cass. States

a volunteer more popular than a
regular service—will take
advantage of this in raising the
regts—nominate the field officers.
Gen. Armstrong
Recd April 1813

McArthur to [Armstrong]

Chillicothe April 3rd 1813

Dear Sir

Genl Cass arived here on the evening of the 30th ultimo, by whom I recd recruiting orders, &c which I having [sic] been making preperations to attend to. But have this moment recd orders from Genl Harrison to repair to the Rapids with as much expedition as possible. This being the case the recruiting service must suffer in the lower end of the state, as the system is not organized, nor any recruiting officers appointed. The Eleven thousand dollars which was put into my hands by Genl Cass, I have lodged in the Bank of Chillicothe. I shall direct that it shall be subject to the order of any person you may direct to receive it.

In the joint letter addressed to you by Genl Cass and myself, we were in great haste and omited recommending any person as Colonel from the lower end of the state, nor can I yet mention the name of any person. I intended seting out on the 5th Inst for the purpose of nominating platoon officers for the purpose of commencing the recruiting business. and in hopes to find some person in the lower end of the State which would be

popular, that I could recommend as Colonel But must now obey the orders of my superior.

In great haste
I am very respectfully yours
DUNCAN MCARTHUR

JAMES MORRISON TO MCARTHUR

Franklinton 12th April 1813

Sir

Four men have arived at Fort Meigs, who state that the British and their Indian Allies are making preparation to attack that post. Genl Harrison would leave St Mary's or Amanda on the 9th and descend by water with a fleet of boats & perogues laden with stores and provisions—The efficient force at F Meigs with the information they possess of the Enemies intentions forbids a belief that they will be able to reduce that post; even should the Commander in Chief fail in arriving there—But my Good Sir I have very great fears for upper and lower Sandusky; for I am deeply impressed with a belief that the real object of the Enemy is to attack one or both those posts, which they can take in a few Hours—there not being more than about 40 or 50 effective men at the upper, the force at the lower is unknown to me but apprehend equally inconsiderable*I have thought it my duty to give you this information, and to suggest the expediency of your hastening to Upper Sandusky, leaving such officer as you may select to follow you with such volunteers as can be raised—There is no officer of experience at Sandusky—your presence there in my opin-

ion is all important—Those posts (upper and lower Sandusky) are more than vulnerable, and the Enemy can approach them now the Lake is clear [?] with the utmost facility—

I am at this moment much engaged sending off some fixed amunition to F. Finley for two companies of K Militia now at F. McArthur under the command of Majr James Johnston—

I am Sir,
respectfully your ob st.
James Morrison

P.S. I have thought the above infermation of sufficient importance to justify my sending an Express to you who is instructed to ride day & night—perhaps the enemy may attack Cleveland where we have considerable stores of grain & provisions—I am satisfied there object is not F Meigs—

Brigadier Genl
Duncan McArthur
Chilocothe

*I am at this moment informed there are 200 men at lower Sandusky.

McArthur to Armstrong

Chillicothe April 14th 1813

Dear Sir,

From the very frank and candid manner in which I was received, the few moments I had the honor of waiting on you, has enduced me to address you, with perhaps too little reserve. I trust however, that my motives cannot be impeached which I hope will plead my apology.

I mentioned in my last, that I was ordered to the Miami Rapids by Genl Harrison who is now on his way to that place, but says he cannot remain there longer than he can get an United States Brigr Genl to take the command. I purpose seting out for that post tomorrow unless my orders are countermanded. Since I recd recruiting instructions, I have used every exertion to forward that business.

Genl Cass informed me that the government contemplated exchanging all prisoners of war, who would again engage in the service of the U.S. consequently, several of those Captains and subalterns which I have appointed, and who are now recruiting men, under the act of Jany 29th are of those officers who were surrendered at Detroit. A list of their names you will receive inclosed.— In a letter lately received from Genl James Taylor, dated at the City; he expresses doubts as to the exchange of any of the prisoners surrendered at Detroit. As both the [?] of the government and of individuals, may be considered deeply interested in this question. I beg sir, that you will lose no time in giving me correct information on the subject, and say if you please how far we may go on with the appointments and enlistments of those surrendered at Detroit.

I some time since took the liberty to mention my apprehentions with respect to our military stores on the frontier, particularly those at the Sanduskies. I now inclose you a letter which I this moment received by express from Major Morrison. I shall endeavour to raise some mounted volunteers to go to Sandusky for a few weeks,—but this is so busy a season and the waters so very high that I doubt very much of success.

There is as yet no information recd on the subject of clothing for the 26th Regt, no copy of the contract for the state of Ohio, nor is there any regulations made for the supply of the recruits. Whilst on the subject I beg leave to assure you Sir, that the principal place of rendezvous for the 26th Regt would be much more convenient at Chillicothe or Urbana than at Zanesville, as the former places are within the district of country where it is contemplated to raise said regiment, whilst the latter place is not within 40 or 50 miles of any part of it. there is also abundant supplies of provision already collected on the Scioto and Miami whilst Muskingun will scarcely afford supplies for the 27th Regt.

I shall leave Lieut Col. Lucas here to attend to the recruiting service in my absence with directions to pay out money to the recruiting officers, as the service may require.

Any instructions which may be addressed to me at this place, will be forwarded immediately.

Dear Sir, I am

Very respectfully yours,

Duncan McArthur

The Hon. John Armstrong

Secretary of war

Cass to [Armstrong]

Zanesville April 18th 1813.

Sir,

From information recd through various channels there is reason to apprehend an attack is meditated by the

enemy upon some part of our Territory. Probably upon Fort Meigs, Upper Sandusky or Cleaveland. The quantity of publick property deposited at the two latter places and the defenceless situation, in which they at present are induces us to believe that the expected blow will fall upon one of them. The Governor is now here and upon the requisition of Gen. Harrison is ordering some militia companies to Sandusky. Should however the enemy contemplate an attack upon Fort Meigs, they will unquestionably in the first instance throw their Indians in its rear and intercept all communication between Gen. Harrison and the settled parts of the State. In that event it would be impracticable for Gen. Harrison to communicate other information of his situation or orders for reinforcements. Although I should have no doubt of the course to be pursued both by Gen. McArthur and myself and should hasten to the scene of action with what forces could be raised, yet your instructions upon that subject would relieve me from some anxiety. The season of the year has arrived when the Indians can carry on their operations without inconvenience to themselves, and when their troops can be supported in the woods. We are to expect they will make irruptions into our settlements. The Lake is nearly navigable. I understand that publick property to a very large amount is deposited at Cleaveland. By a sudden descent the British might destroy it before there were any possibility of procuring forces adequate to its protection.

I am aware, Sir, that the multifarious details which require your attention render it almost improper to introduce these subjects. But the probability, that Gen. Harrison will not be able to communicate freely with the

State, and my being left without any powers but those derived from my appointment must furnish my apology. It is better to provide for contingencies, which may not happen, than that they should meet us unexpectedly and find us unprepared.

There is every probability, that the Regiments assigned to this State will be enabled to raise the greater part of their number within a short period. It will much facilitate the service if the men are permitted to remain within the Districts, in which they are raised, until the Companies are nearly filled.

The recruiting business is not conducted in the ordinary manner. The appointment of the officers is conditional. And in addition to this stimulus, the Militia Regiments are mustered in succession, that direct appeals may be made to the zeal and patriotism of our Citizens. But it would add greatly were [sic] to our success were the arms and clothing, the drums and fifes here and were we permitted to forward them to the different recruiting districts. I rec'd from the Paymaster of the Army $8000 for bounties and premiums and from the Account $3000 for Contingencies. I request that I may be permitted to pay over to the Comdg Officer of the 27th Regiment this money and that his receipt may exonerate me from that charge. It is impossible for me personally to attend to the expenditure of the money. Unless I continue to visit the different parts of the State I am apprehensive the recruiting business would not proceed with as much expedition as it now does.

I recommend Edward B. Jackson as a young man well qualified to discharge the duties of Surgeon's Mate for the 27th Regt. He has been [on] a tour of duty in that

capacity, and has returned with the esteem of those with whom he has acted.

Very respectfully, Sir,
I have the honour to be
yo obt Servt
LEW CASS

CASS TO [ARMSTRONG]

Zanesville May 5th 1813.

Sir,

I have just returned from the Lake Country, where I have been for the purpose of expediting the recruiting service. While there I ascertained, that there was a large quantity of pork and flour deposited at Cleaveland and at the mouth of Grand River. Whether it be the property of Porter or his agents or of the United States, I could not learn. Had I discovered that it belonged to the latter, I should personally have examined its condition. But the possibility of it being private property prevented my interfering with it.

If, Sir, it belong to the United States, some steps ought to be immediately taken for repacking the pork. Salt was very scarce in that Country in the winter, and I have every reason to believe, it will spoil in the course of two months, unless it is before that time repacked and carefully.

A report last evening reached here, and in such a shape as to deserve credit that an attack had been made upon Fort Meigs. A firing was said to have been commenced by the British from the northern bank of the Miami upon

the Fort on friday morning last previous to the departure of the express and to have been heard by him until saturday morning. Every information we have recently received from that quarter justifies the belief that the enemy meditated and were preparing for an attack upon some part of our Territory.

Since writing the above, I have been honoured with your letter of the 28th ulto. I trust, Sir, that you will not be deceived in your expectations respecting the zeal and patriotism of the People of this Country. Every exertion is making and will be made to call that zeal and patriotism into action. I hope we shall never see an Eastern Division of the America[n] Army attacking Malden.

I think without overrating our success, that by the beginning of June two thirds of the force allotted to this State will be ready to move. Our men are so scattered and it is so difficult to commence a movement, that it wo[uld] be better our route should be prescribed and the time of our march fixed as early as possible.

With great respect, Sir,
I have the honour to be
yo. mo. obt Servt.
LEW CASS

CASS TO [ARMSTRONG]

Wednesday 5 o'clock
May 5th

Sir,

I have but one moment to forward to you the enclosed letter rec'd from Gov. Meigs. I send a man if pos-

sible to overtake the mail. I shall set out in the morning with what force can be raised for the scene of Action.

Very respectfully, Sir,
I have the honour to be
yo. mo. obt Servt
LEW CASS

MEIGS TO CASS

[Enclosure in Cass to Armstrong, May 5]

Delaware 3 o'clock afternoon
—May 3rd 1813—

Sir

By the return of an Express sent from this to upper Sandusky it is ascertained that Fort Meigs is beseiged—Genl Harrison has sent to Fort Finley to sink a Boat there laden with cannon Ball—

The British Indians &ec &ec were computed at 3000—Genl Clay with the Kentuckians had not arrived when the Bombardment commenced—

If ever there was a time for Execution on the frontiers it will be now—mounted men are calld on in every contiguous direction to rendezvous here and at Norton immediately—I will go with them if required—200 men left Norton this morning—upper Sandusky.

I am in great haste

yours respectfully
WILLIAM H. BRAID
[signature is crossed out]

Forage—& Provisions are to be furnished here—Let the mounted men you send bring

all the Arms & Ammunition they Can—I urge yr Exertion to send 60 mounted Men without Delay—

In haste
yr. obt Sr.
R. Meigs

Gen Cass

Cass to [Armstrong]

Delaware May 8th 1813
In the evening.

Sir,

The information received this evening from Sandusky convinces us that the situation of Gen. Harrison is critical and alarming.

On thursday the 28th the British appeared within sight of Fort Meigs and debarked their troops and artillery. They erected a battery on each side of the Miami and commenced firing on the 29th Since then the firing has been distinctly heard at Upper Sandusky and it continued until yesterday noon. The intervals between the firing are longer than they were at first, and at one time the firing was discontinued for eighteen hours, and then renewed. The last messenger from Upper Sandusky left there on yesterday noon.

A Man has this evening arrived, who left Fort Findlay on the morning of the sixth. This post is within forty miles of Fort Meigs. Nothing was there known respecting the situation or prospects of Gen. Harrison. All communication with him have been intercepted and the woods were filled with Indians. Gen. Clay with the Ken-

tucky troops has probably not joined Harrison. The fact cannot be ascertained with certainty. We have this evening been informed, that they are at Defiance and that a firing has been heard at Fort Findlay in that direction. The Governor is at Upper Sandusky with about 600 men. I shall leave here in the morning with about 100 more. Mounted men are coming in from all directions. But it is a species of force more respectable for its zeal and numbers than for its efficiency

I cannot seriously believe, that Harrison will be overpowered. The force of the British and Indians must far exceed what we have supposed it to be, if they can attain their object. Every exertion practicable will be used to reach the rapids with a competent force to relieve him. I shall have the honour of communicating to you the intelligence we receive in our progress and the result as soon as it is ascertained.

With great respect,
I am, Sir,
Yo. mo. obt Servt
Lew Cass

Cass to [Armstrong]

Sir, Franklinton May 18th 1813

The letter, which I had the honour to address to you a few days since, informed you of my marching with a body of mounted Volunteers to join the forces assembled by the Governor for the purpose of attempting the relief of Fort Meigs. Meeting Gen. Harrison at lower Sandusky we found it unnecessary to proceed farther.

The short interval of time, for which I was absent from the District has in no manner injured the recruiting service. The whole business had been arranged previous to my departure. I trust my conduct will meet your approbation.

Very respectfully, Sir,
I am, yo. mo obt Servt
LEW CASS.

CASS TO [ARMSTRONG]

Zanesville May 24th 1813.

Sir,

Mess. Orr and Greeley will be ready to issue under their contract on the first of June. At that time the temporary contracts for the supply of recruiting parties will consequently expire. In what manner and by whom are these accounts for provisions to be adjusted?

The recruiting business is so extended and the officers employed in it so continually upon the move, that I cannot speak with precision respecting the number enlisted. There are however between five and six hundred in the 27th Regiment and the prospect still continues encouraging. But the business is much retarded from the want of clothing. Without blankets, without clothing, without cooking utensils and with authority to purchase neither, it is impossible to render the situation of the men comfortable to themselves or desirable to others. It is now the latter end of May, and not one word have I heard upon the subject from the Commissary's department. An intelligent young man from the Kenty. troops taken at the Rapids passed near here yesterday. He left De-

troit this day week. He represents the regular force, which attacked Gen. Harrison at about 500 men. One company and a half were left between Detroit and Malden. Two of the Kentuckians were burned on hog island two miles above Detroit the night before he left there. The Indians were many hours in burning them. No effort was made by the British to prevent it. I did not myself see him or I should have enquired into the situation of the works at Malden and Detroit. He is confident, that Maj. Graves and a number, who were supposed to have fallen at the River Raisin were alive among the Indians.

I have conversed with many of the men, who were taken at the Rapids. Would it not be proper that some steps should be taken to procure their testimony, in relation to the horrible scenes which passed before them and to publish it to the world. Humanity shudders at the detail of facts, which occurred at the old British Fort Miami, quain[tly] but emphatically called by them the butcher pen.

Very respectfully, Sir,
I have the honour to be
yo. mo. obt Servt
Lew Cass

Kingsbury to Armstrong

Cleaveland May 31th 1813

Dear Sir

We have many of these unfortunate ones that were driven off from Detroyet when it was Surrendered and

from the River Resin and the Miammi of the Lake at the Same time. and Many that were driven off at the taking of Genl Winchester from Detroyet and of the poor Frenchmen with their families half naked without purse are Swip from the River Resin and by their fatigue and hardship with their families half naked many have taken the Prevelant fever and Some men have died and left poor distressed families and as it hath been the misfortain of this place and County with the other Countys on the Lake to have expended a lar[g]e part of their produce in Genl Wadsworth Campain Last fall and our six Month men and Large credit to the Contractor Porters agent and for all have not Received one Cent and many other expences not to be enumerated together with the Late prisoners from fourt Meigs half naked starved and without money whitch Called for the Charity of the people. I say taking all into Consideration you will take this opertunity to wipe the teer from the unfortunate eye if within your province or by the help of the president [ms. defaced] the Commisary at Cleaveland to issue to them their Ration, for those unfortunate ones that fled to the south have Received their Rations. I have taken the Responcibility on myself and issued to their necessity and when Govnr Meigs was at Cleaveland the past week gave me instructions not Let none Suffer and Requested me to write you. I conversed with Majr Jasup on the subject he said best to forward a Request to you. Parhaps you may think at first that Genl Harrison could supply these poor sufferers but other attention will not permit. I encourag those sufferers and tell them they will Receive full for all their suffering——
and dear [sir] I would not imply to you that we are in

any wise discouraged for we are not only willing to Send a part of our property but all and our lives also in soo just a cause in Defence of our Rites and will defend our writs untill the storm is all over. please to excuse me in urging all exertions to forward an [?] Army to Mauldan before August for then the fever is often prevalent with pursons not accustomed to the Lakes——

from your Obediand
humble Servt—
James Kingsbury

Genr W Armstrong

[Endorsed]

Cleveland May 31 1813
James Kingsbury
Solicits leave to issue
rations to those who
have been driven off
their lands by the War
Recd June 1813

Cass to [Armstrong]

Zanesville June 1st 1813.

Sir,

I last evening received a letter from Colo Perkins, in which he informed me he has declined the Colonelcy of the 27th Regiment.

It may have appeared like negligence in me, that the fact of his acceptance was not ascertained at an earlier day. I therefore owe it to myself to state, that I had

an interview with Col Perkins as soon after the receipt of his letter of appointment as I could ride to his place of residence. He then determined to accept the appointment, and it was not until yesterday, that the change in his intentions became known to me. I have written him urging the necessity of his acceptance, and I yet trust he may be induced to act.

Should he ultimately decline, I have stated to our Senators my opinion in relation to his successor. I will not trouble you upon the subject.

I shall have nearly the whole of the 27th Regiment ready for the field by the time our naval ascendancy is secured upon the Upper Lake.

Very respectfully, Sir
I have the honour to be
yo. mo. obt Servt
Lew Cass.

Cass to [Armstrong]

Zanesville June 7th 1813.

Sir,

Clothing is so necessary to promote the success of the recruiting service and so indispensible in the operations of the approaching campaign, that I should deem myself culpably negligent did I not state to you the precise situation of that intended for the 27th Regiment.

I am informed by the Commissary General that he has forwarded for this Regiment 500 suits of clothing. Even now this is not enough and soon the deficiency will be much greater. When the residue will arrive is very

doubtful. In the mean, there is a large quantity of clothing lying at Chillicothe and Franklinton and intended for the 17th and 19th Regiments. There is much more than those Regiments in their present reduced situation can want. I am even told by one of the officers in the Quarter Master's department, that a considerable quantity having been wet in descending the Ohio will probably be spoiled in the course of the summer.
Were I authorized to draw from those depots such clothing as might be wanted for the use of the 27th Regiment without diminishing the quantity so much as to injure the 17th and 19th Regts. it will obviate an inconvenience, which I anticipate and which will otherwise be seriously felt.

Very respectfully, Sir,
I have the honour to be
Yo mo obt Servt
LEW CASS.

CASS TO [ARMSTRONG]

Zanesville June 16th 1813

Sir,

By the orders of Maj. Gen. Harrison the Recruits of the 27th Regiment are about moving for Franklinton. Seven hundred men have been raised in this Regiment. It is so nearly filled that my personal attendance to it is now unnecessary. Agreably to the orders of Gen. Harrison I shall leave some officers in each District for the purpose of continuing the recruiting service.
But for this service to advance with any dispatch, a

change must take place in the responsibility of the Officer superintending this business. I am made personally responsible for the specific appropriation of all the money advanced for bounties and premiums to the objects for which it was destined. The receipt of the officers employed in the service is no voucher for me. Nothing but a regular muster roll and a return of all the enlistments will exonerate me from the responsibility incurred. Maj. Munson who has the immediate superintendance of this business will be in want of money and certainly the same rule, which is applied to officers superintending the recruiting service in other corps should be here applied. He ought to be held responsible only for the distribution of the money to the subordinate officers employed in the service.

I have rec'd of the Paymaster $8000. seven hundred men have been raised. Consequently $7000 have been expended. The men are called together and put into active service before this has been or could be liquidated in the manner requird by the Accounting Officers. The chance of a battle is added to the usual casualties of human life. I do not mention this, Sir, on my account. My responsibility is pledged and altho I foresee great difficulty and hazard in procuring a formal exoneration yet I incurred, it tho' thoughtlessly yet voluntarily. I mention it, that as the risk and inconvenience to individuals greatly overbalances the security to the publick another course may be adopted.

Very respectfully Sir
I have the honour to be
yo. mo. obt Servt.
Lew Cass.

McArthur to Armstrong

Chillicothe June 16th 1813

The Hon. John Armstrong
Secretary of war
Sir,

Understanding that the Northwestern army is shortly to move on towards Canada; and it being my wish, and only motive in joining the service, to accompany the army on their return to that country; I have to beg the favour, of being undulged with permission to join Genl Harrison.

I am sorry to state that the recruiting service progress, but slowly in the west end of the state. Every arrangement is, however, made that can possibly aid, or facilitate the recruiting service. And I think Lieut Col. Van Horn intirely competent to superintend the district. Should my exchange be ratified, I trust there will be no objections to granting my request and beg the favour, to be advised on this subject as soon as possible.

Very respectfully
I am Sir, your Ob Servt.
Duncan McArthur
Brigr Genl U.S. Ay

McArthur to Armstrong

Dear Sir, Chillicothe June 30th 1813

Altho I have not been able to collect correct official returns of more than 279 enlistments in the 26th Regt.

yet I believe there are at this time about 300 enlisted, about 240 of which, have marched last week for Sandusky.

I have myself visited almost every recruiting station and Town in the lower end of the State, and am fully convinced that not more than 500 men can be enlisted, in the western district, within a reasonable time. There is now nearly a Regt enlisted in the state of Ohio, under the act of the 29th Jany, and there may possibly be another Battalion had in the course of the summer. But I cannot believe that both the 26th & 27th Regts can be filled, within a reasonable time in this state. I understand also, that the Kentucky Regt (the 28th) is not full. If therefore, the President, should think it important to have the 26th Regt filled shortly, I beg leave to suggest, the propriety of dismissing a part of the officers appointed to the 26th Regt and of raising one Battalion of said Regt, in those parts of Pennsylvania and Virginia which lies west of the Alleghany mountains. In case the recruiting service is not already carried on, in those parts, under the act of the 29th of Jany 1813.

From the instructions, and positive orders given to the recruiting officers of the 26th Regt, I hope to be enabled shortly, to transmit to the war department correct recruiting returns and accounts warrent.

I have the honor to be
yours with great respect
DUNCAN MCARTHUR
Brigr General

The Hon. John Armstrong
Secretary of war

McArthur to Armstrong

Detroit Octr 6th 1813

Sir,

You have no doubt been advised by the commanding Genl, that Malden and this place were abandoned by the enemy previous to the arrival of our army, and that all the public buildings &c, were destroyed. On our arrival at sandwich, my Brigade was ordered across the river to disperse some Indians, who were piliging the Town and to take possession of this place. Information was received that several thousand Indians had retired a small distance into the woods with instructions to attack Genl Harrison's army, on its passage for the purpose of retarding its progress. Consequently my Brigade was left to garrison this place.

Since Genl Harrisons departure five nations of Indians, to wit, the Ottaways, Chipaways, Potawatomies, Miamies and Kickapoos, who were but a few miles back, have come in for peace, and I have agreed that hostilities should cease for the present on the following conditions. "They have agreed to take hold of the same Tomohawk with us, and to strike all who are, or may be enimies to the united States, whether British, or Indians. They are to bring in a number of their women and children and leave them as hostages whilst they accompany us to war. Some of them have already brought in their women and are drawing rations. I know not whether the president will approve of the arrangement which I have made with those Indians. It is certain that I have as little respect for those wretched beings as any other person

can have, yet I was of opinion that we might save the lives of many women and Children on our frontier, and the expense of hunting down those savages over a vast wilderness, which cannot at present be useful to any human being but themselves and that by puting an end to the Indian war, it would facilitate the sale & settlement of our wild lands—And knowing that if we kept possession of the Lakes and upper Canada (which I trust will never be relinquished) there never could be another Indian war. This sir, enduced the measures which I have persued towards those Indians.

I have just recd a note from Genl Harrison advising, that he had last evening overtaken Genl Proctors force—and had gained a complete victory—that all the principal officers, Genl Proctor excepted were in his possession. Which no doubt ends the war in this quarter.

I have the honor to be
your Ob Hb serv
DUNCAN MCARTHUR,
Brigr Genl U.S. Ay

The Hon Secretary of War

INSTRUCTIONS FROM GENERAL GAINES

Copy—

Extract from an "after General order," dated Head Quarters on board the United States Schooner, Aeriel, 18th Octr 1813.

"It is the intention of the General, that Brig: Gen: "Cass should possess, as it regards that part of the "province of Upper Canada, that is in our possession,

"all the powers that appertained to the Executive auth-
"ority established by the British Government, in the
"said province"

By command,
Signd — — E. P. Gaines
Adjt Genl

A true extract from the original
Sigd E. P. Gaines
Adjt Genl

Adjt Genls Office
Hd Qrs Aeriel
Octr. 18th 1813

A copy,
C. A. Norton
Aid-de-camp.

Cass to Armstrong

Detroit Oct: 21. 1813

Sir,

Maj. Gen. Harrison, with about 1200 men, left here the 19th instant. I presume, he has communicated to you the object of the expedition. I am left in command, at this place, with about 400 effective regular troops, and 130 Ohio militia. Three hundred and seventy more of the Ohio militia are ordered here from Sandusky. I enclose a copy of the Armistice, concluded with the different Indian tribes. So far as their real disposition can be ascertained, there is no reason to doubt the sincerity of any of them, except the *Potowatomies*. Restless and discontented, they are only to be restrained by the presence

of a superior force. Even since the signing of the armistice, they have continued their depredations upon the property of the inhabitants. The people of this Territory are in a most deplorable situation. The country is entirely exhausted of its resources. I enclose a memorial presented me by a respectable committee of the inhabitants. It states their situation correctly. No man, who has not seen the country can form an adequate idea of the distressed situation of the people or of the outrages committed upon their persons and property. I have taken the responsibility of issuing to them a small supply of provision, until I can receive your instructions.

With respect to the civil Government of the Western District of Upper canada, some explanation of the views of the Government will be necessary. It would be altogether impolitic, to extend to them the rights enjoyed by our citizens generally. Until all danger is removed of a return of the British, I consider it unsafe, to put them in the full enjoyment of civil rights.

In the pursuit of the enemy up the river Trench and in the return of the troops, great injury was done to the property of the inhabitants: Shall claims for those losses be paid?—— And if so, how, and by whom?

A number of our prisoners taken at the river Raisin, and Miami, have been purchased of the Indians, by the inhabitants. They now come forward, claiming remuneration.

I also enclose a copy of General Proctor's proclamation establishing martial law in Upper Canada; and also, a copy of the General order issued by the Commanding General, and received since the former part of this letter was written. By them, you will be enabled to see the

present situation of the Government of the District. Knowing, as I do, the character of the inhabitants, the situation of the country, and the attachment of the principal people to the cause of the enemy, I must again repeat, that, to exempt them from military authority, would be, to endanger our best interests. It is impossible to occupy the whole country. We can only take two good positions, viz, at Malden, and Sandwich. For the peace of the residue of the country, we must trust to secret agents, of whom I have several employed, and to the terror of military punishment. The principal inhabitants have been, and will be paroled, to do nothing injurious to the interests of the United States.

I have the honor to be,
Sir, your most obt
humbl servant
LEW CASS.

Hon. John Armstrong,
Secretary of war

[Enclosure in Cass to Armstrong, Oct. 21]

Proclamation.

Head Quarters, Sandwich,
13th Septr. 1813.

His excellency, Sir George Prevost, Governor in Chief, having authorized the officer commanding the troops in the Upper Province to execute Martial law, in such District, or part thereof, in which it may be found adviseable or necessary to resort to that measure.

I do hereby, by virtue of the authority above men-

tioned, proclaim, and direct, that the same shall, immediately, take effect, as far as supplying the wants of the troops under my command, or the sending away, or apprehending all traiterous, or disaffected persons, may render expedient.

HENRY PROCTOR

Major General,

comg
the right Division

Detroit, Oct. 21, 1813. I certify the foregoing to be a correct copy of the printed proclamation.

C. A. NORTON,
1st Lieut. 28th U. S. infy,
& Aid-de-camp to
Brig: Gen: Cass.

CASS TO ARMSTRONG

Detroit Oct 28. 1813

Extract
Sir,

In raising the 27th reg:, contracts were made in different parts of the State of Ohio, for the purpose of furnishing the recruits with rations. This was done, in conformity with instructions from the Adjutant General's office. I have examined, and certified, the abstracts for those rations, agreeably to your letter upon that subject, of June last; and they have been presented to the District paymaster for payment, who re-

fuses, alledging, he has rec'd no instructions to pay them. I am anxious that specific directions should be given, as I am frequently applied to, on the subject, and as a long time has elapsed, since the rations were supplied.

I feel myself again compelled, to call the attention of the Government, to the distressed situation of the people of this country. Unless they are assisted from the public stores, they must, literally perish. The whole resources of the country are exhausted; &, there being no means of transportation upon the Lake, but public vessels, it is impossible that provisions, commensurate with the wants of the inhabitants, can be imported. Any description, which I can give will feebly pourtray the situation of the country, & the calamities which the people have suffered. The principal part, of the resources, was consumed by the British; and the savages gleaned the residue. I am well convinced, from numberless facts, which have reached me, that there was no disposition, on the part of the British comg officer, to restrain their excesses. Fear, was the principal of his government, and how well he succeeded in exciting it, you need not, now, be told. An Indian agent, a man of talents and fidelity, is much wanted here, to superintend the Indian Department. There is no person of that description here, and the details of the business so interfere with my other duties, that it is impracticable to attend to it, with that diligence, which its importance requires. Instructions are necessary, in relation to the views of the Government towards the Indians. They are, daily, requiring provisions & ammunition. The latter article, a regard to our safety, forbids me from issuing, except, in very small quantities, merely to enable them to hunt. Lt Colo Warburton of the staff,

& Lt. Colo. Evans of the 41st, both taken upon the Trench, inform me, that, at one period, they issued, here and at Malden, between 14 and 15,000 rations, per day, to the Indians. I am convinced, they had a larger body of Indians than were ever before collected—probably, not less than 4,000 warriors. There is little reason to doubt but that the celebrated Tecumseh was killed in the battle. His body was seen by us all, and recognized to have been that of the Indian chief; and subsequent information confirms the identity.

The buildings in the Fort, and citadel, having been burn't by the enemy, the troops are building temporary huts to shelter themselves. I would suggest the propriety, at an early day, of making arrangements for the erection of permanent, useful buildings.

I am happy to inform you, that the two vessels, which Gen: Harrison supposed were lost, are safe, having, by the violence of the storm, been driven down the Lake.

I have the honor,
to be, sir,
Your obt, humble
Servt

Hon. Jno Armstrong — Lew Cass.

Cass to Swearingen

Copy

Detroit Nov 28th 1813

Sir, Enclosed, I forward to you a list of medicine wanted, or which will be soon wanted, for the use of the hospital here. If your instructions authorize it, you will cause

them to be purchased & forwarded to this place, with the least practicable delay.

The number of our sick, which exceed 1300, is so great, & the supply of medicine now on hand, is so inadequate to the consumption, that any unnecessary delay may cost the lives of many valuable men. The mode of transportation, I refer to your discretion. But, it appears to me, that Pack-horses afford the only means, at this season of the year.

I am, sir,
your obt servt.
Signed, Lew Cass
Brig Gen—Comg.

Major Swearingen
D. Q. Mr. Genl
Pittsburg.

Cass to Armstrong

Detroit Nov. 28th 1813

Sir,

Accompanying this, I have the honor to forward to you, a copy of a requisition upon the Depy Qr. Master General, at Pittsburg. I make it, because the necessity is urgent, and because delay may be attended with fatal consequences. There are, here, upwards of 1,300 men sick; and the stock of medicine is nearly exhausted. Pittsburg is the nearest place, at which, a supply, adequate to our wants, can be procured. Should the Depy Qr Mr Genl at Pittsburg not be authorized to purchase

and forward these medicines, I request, that immediate instructions may be given him so to do.

The mortality among the troops is great; the country is exhausted of its resources; & our situation will be calamitous, indeed, unless means are adopted to forward these medicines.

The stock of hospital stores is, also, nearly exhausted. I would suggest the necessity of ordering a new supply to be immediately forwarded.

Very respectfully, Sir,
I have the honor to be,
Yo: mo: ob: Servt
LEW CASS.

Hon. John Armstrong

CASS TO [ARMSTRONG?]

Sir, Detroit Decr 4, 1813

Indian rumours, I generally despise; nor do I feel any inclination, unnecessarily, to excite any alarm. But, it is, certainly, better, that I should state to you, frankly, the situation of the country, & the reports which are daily reaching me. I do this, in order that proper measures may be taken to guard against probable contingencies; & that, in case of any unforeseen disaster, I may not have failed in my duty.

I have reason to believe, that the professions of many of the Indian tribes are hollow & deceitful. It is a fact, not now to be questioned, that the attachment of most of them to the enemy, is much more sincere, than to us. The cause of this, is to be found, in the relative situa-

tion of the contending parties, & in the art with which the enemy has impressed the Indians, that our success is their destruction. In addition to this, they have reduced the management of their Indian affairs to a system. They have their agents, interpreters, & engagees in every part of the country. The result of all this is, that the Indians are suspicious & jealous, doubtful of our sincerity, & apprehensive for the future. I have ascertained it to be a fact, & it has reached me from various quarters, that the Indians have secretly declared, as soon as the ice is sufficiently strong to bear, they will again take up the tomahawk. I do not believe they will do so. But, I shall continue my preparations, & hold myself in the same situation, as though I knew they were determined to put their threats in execution.

I ask permission to appoint five, or six, interpreters. I am anxious to send them into the Indian country, to watch their movements; to give us notice of their intentions; & to counteract the secret intrigues of the enemy. A small sum, for secret service money, & for the contingent expenses of the Indian department, is necessary. The former, is required, in order to counteract any communication which the enemy yet preserve with the Western District of Upper Canada.

They were in the habit of selecting certain influential chiefs, & granting them pay, of, from ten to twenty dollars per month. By this means, they retained a strong hold upon the Indians, whose effects are yet felt.

I would recommend, that small presents be purchased here for those Indians who deserve them. There are some, who have exhibited traits of fidelity, which, I wish, were more prevalent among some of our own citizens.

In a former letter, I recommended Colo Gabriel Godfroy, of this place, for a sub-agent. I find him the most useful man in Indian affairs in the territory. Zealous & active, faithful & honest, without his assistance, for which he has rec'd nothing, I should have been much embarrassed. I have sent a small party of Canadians & Indians to Lake Michigan & St Josephs, in order to bring in some of our people yet retained as prisoners; & to break up the establishments of some Northwest traders, who are instigating the Indians to mischief. I am in daily expectation of their return.

Among Gen: Procters papers, is a letter from Sir Geo: Prevost, informing him, that, in any event the garrison of Michilimackinac would not be withdrawn. I cannot now lay my hand upon it. I will transmit it to you, when found. We shall, doubtless, be under the necessity of reducing that post, in the spring.

I am, sir,
very respectfully,
Yr ob: Serv:
Lew Cass.

[Endorsed]
Detroit Dec. 4 1813
Genl Cass
States that the Indians
are not to be relied on—
Still more attached to the enemy than to
the U. S.—Wants to send several Interpreters among them & to have G. Godfroy
made an agent—Has sent a party
to Michigan.
Recd Decr. 1813

CASS TO ARMSTRONG

Extract

Sir, Detroit Decr 11th 1813

By my letter of the 13th ulto, I had the honor to inform you, that I had made a requisition upon the contractor, for five hundred thousand rations for the support of this post and its dependencies during the ensuing winter and spring. Accompanying this, I have the honor to forward to you, the contractor's answer to my requisition, by which, it will be percieved, he refuses, on the ground of inability to furnish the flour part of the ration. As time was all important to us, I had directed Capt William Oliver, who had been left here by Gen: Harrison as a special commissary, in the event of the contractor's refusal to comply with the requisition, which I anticipated, to proceed immediately to make the necessary purchases in the interior of Ohio, and to take measures for their transportation to this place. The difficulty, and expense attendant upon the transportation of provisions through the wilderness which separates this country from that, is well known to you. But, it persented the only alternative, for, instead of recieving assistance, we are compelled to render it to this distressed and exhausted country. I had supposed, until yesterday, that this arrangement was in a train of operation; but, I have been advised by the agent of Mr Piatt, the purchasing commissary, that Capt Oliver's authority is not recognized at the War office, and, that he can make no purchases upon his requisition. How the mistake has originated with respect to his appointment, I know not; but, its effects may be serious and unpleasant. I

have to request, that Capt Oliver may be appointed to that office. He has performed its duties with zeal and ability, since August last. He has claims to the attention of Government. He is the person, who, during the investment of Fort Meigs, was twice sent out with letters; and a better or a braver man, never hazarded his life in the cause of his country. Without him, I should be totally at a loss, both with respect to the purchases necessary to be made, and the public provisions on hand at this and the other posts.

The contractor has arrived here, and I have determined to deliver to him the public provisions. I do this, first, because he has a right to them under the contract—second, because he has produced to me your letter directing it—third, because I understand it was the intention of Gen: Harrison so to do—and fourth, because I believe it for the interest of the Government. I am not perfectly satisfied of the course proper to be taken with respect to the issues where the contractor fails. I have, however, deemed it most expedient to cause the provisions purchased, to be delivered to him. It will, certainly, be proper, to keep the contractor very considerably in advance with his issues. For, the 200,000 rations of flour, which I shall this day direct to be purchased at Urbana, on his account, will be attended with very great expense in its transportation to this place.

We have provisions enough to supply us, till the beginning of February.

I beg leave to suggest to you, the propriety of calling into service a part of the militia of this Territory. We are compelled to feed them, or they would starve. They might supply the place of a part of the militia now here;

and it is, perhaps, a consideration not to be overlooked, that the pay would afford them some little compensation for past scenes of adversity and danger. Their efficiency was tested last year at the battle of Brownstown, in which, they behaved bravely, and honorably. It would substitute willing, for unwilling soldiers.

I have directed a number of watch coats to be made of blankets for the use of the militia. I have also directed, that some of the surplus clothing should be issued to the militia, they paying for it, the price charged by the United States. I have further ordered that an additional blanket be issued to each soldier desiring it, deducting, from his pay, the price of it. These measures were rendered necessary, by the severity of the climate, and by the unprepared state of the troops to meet it—more especially of the militia. I trust, they will meet your approbation.

Accompanying this, I forward to you a letter of the Depy A. Genl of Canada, by which you will see, that the enemy are determined not to evacuate Michilimackinac.

Among the papers transmitted by me, during your absence, to the Sec'y of State, and taken among Procter's baggage, will be found, a letter of Sir George Prevost to Procter, in which, he informs the latter that the force in Upper Canada is as numerous, and of a better description, than the troops in the Lower Province. If so, their troops there, must be much fewer than we have generally supposed.

Very respectfully, sir
I have the honor, to be
yo. mo ob Servt

Hon. John Armstrong. Lew Cass.

Cass to [Armstrong]

Detroit Dec. 12th 1813

Sir,

I request permission to be absent from here for a short period during the winter, when it may not interfere with the publick interest, for the purpose of settling the recruiting accounts of the 27th Regiment, which can only be done at Zanesville and for which I am personally responsible.

I can leave in command Lieut. Colo Butler of the 28th, a man of talents every way competent to discharge the duties of the station.

Very respectfully, Sir,
I have the honour to be
yo. mo. obt Servt
Lew Cass.

Cass to Armstrong

Detroit Decr 17. 1813

Sir,

I am about to surrender the command of this post, and its dependencies, to Lieut Colo Butler of the 28th, and to leave here for Albany, agreeably to orders, rec'd yesterday, to attend as a witness the trial of Brig Gen: Hull.

Permit me, sir, upon this occasion; to communicate to you, more in detail, my opinion respecting this country and its prospects, than, under other circumstances, would be necessary, or, perhaps, proper.

This duty is rendered the more imperious, since the information which reached us yesterday, that our Armies, below, had taken up their winter quarters, without attaining the ultimate object of the campaign. I have anxiously looked to that quarter, for some brilliant operation—well knowing the effect it would have upon the Indians, and the disaffected, in this country

The part of Upper Canada now under our controul, extending from Point au plait to the Moravian town, a distance of about 130 miles, contains, probably, near 8000 inhabitants. It is divided into three districts: One from point au plait to Amherstburg—One from that place to the river Trench—and one upon that river. The middle district contains, principally, a french population.

The people of the other districts are, in a great measure, old tories, who fled from our country during the revolution. The canadian inhabitants of the country, I believe, are really, attached to us. The others are, with equal sincerity, and more zeal, attached to the cause of the enemy. Every injury they can do us, short of acts of open hostility, they will do.

The Indians are restless and uneasy. British emissaries and agents are at work among them. They have rec'd, from us, neither presents nor annuities; and their situation is such, as requires immediate relief. They are destitute of ammunition, of clothing, and, almost, of provisions. You may rely upon it, that they are preparing for an attack, waiting the turn of events, and, perhaps, expecting the aid of a small British force.

The importance which the Canadian Government attach to the co-operation of of [sic] an Indian force, and the assistance which they have heretofore rec'd from

it, is well known, and I am convinced, they will use every exertion to regain their former influence with the Indian tribes.

In this state of things, I think the course dictated by wisdom, and sound policy, is, to extend towards them the hand of friendship; to be liberal in our supplies of clothing and provisions; and to invite them, as soon as circumstances will permit, to hold a general treaty at Brownstown.

The embarrassment, occasioned by the disaffection of the inhabitants, and the discontent of the Indians, is increased, by an incident which has recently occured. A detachment of sixty five men, under Lieut Larwell of the 2d reg: of artillery, was sent to the river Trench, about fifty miles from here, for the purpose of administering, to the inhabitants, the oath of neutrality—of preventing any communication with the enemy—of preserving the peace of the country—and of procuring such supplies of provisions as could be spared by the inhabitants.

After day break, on the morning of the 15th, a part of this detachment, consisting of three subaltern officers, & thirty six privates, was surprized and carried off, by thirty five of the disaffected inhabitants of the country. The most of this party were living within our jurisdiction, and had rec'd our protection; and all of them were inhabitants of that country & its neighborhood.

The comg officer of the detachment had rec'd notice, the preceding day of their intentions; but, instead of preparing for their approach, it appears, that his detachment was divided by the river Trench, and that he, and his officers, were separated from his men. The enemy approached them undiscovered; and three subaltern officers, and 36 men, were taken by 20 persons—and, it is

believed, without discharging a musket in their defence. A transaction, infamous and unprecedented, like this, calls for harsh and rigorous measures. I have sent a strong detachment into that quarter, under Major Langham, with orders to investigate the facts, and to set fire to, and destroy, the property of every person concerned in this business.

I feel no disposition, unnecessarily to increase the calamities of war. But, satisfied I am, that measures of the harshest complexion will, alone, teach these people our rights, and their duty. I trust, my conduct will meet your approbation.

Accompanying this letter, I forward to you an abstract of the last monthly return. I do it, under an apprehension, that return may not have reached you. By it, you will see, how weak is our force, and how inadequate to any thing but defensive measures. I have taken the responsibility, as Governor of the Territory, of ordering about 200 of its militia into service. I do this, for the reasons given in my letter of the 11th inst:, added to the new complexion given to affairs, by relinquishing operations below, by the disaffection of the people, by the evident designs of the Indians, and I may add, in compliance with the wishes, or the fears, of the inhabitants of the Territory. To the residue of the militia, I shall distribute arms and ammunition, and I shall leave instructions with Lt Colo Butler, in the event of the approach of any considerable body of the enemy, to call out the whole population of the Territory. To receive, in Albany, your approbation of these measures, will relieve me from much anxiety.

I transmit, herewith, the copy of a letter, of this date, to Gov. Meigs. I request him to take measures, to have

that number of militia ready to receive your orders—because, if it is not approved by the Government, it will subject them to neither inconvenience, nor expense: And, if approved, they will be ready to move immediately, if you think the situation of this country requires an increase of the number of troops now here.

The first surrender of this country cost the U. S. too much reputation, and its subsequent recovery has cost too much treasure, to be lost for the want of adequate preparations.

The stock of provisions, on hand, is not so great as I could wish. Of meat, we have plenty; and we have flour enough to last till the middle of February. Before that, I trust, a supply can be obtained from Ohio.

Decr 19. 1813

Since writing the above, I have rec'd, from Lt Larwell, a letter, dated after his capture. It appears, that three of the party who carried him off, were British Dragoons from Burlington heights. The others, militia of the country. He attributes his surprize, to the negligence of his sentinels, and the misconduct of his own dragoons. They have, probably, taken him to Burlington heights.

Second *Lieut. Kouns,* of the 28th reg: of infy, merits promotion. He has, this day, returned from examining the country between the Lake and the river Trench. He has executed his orders, very much to my satisfaction. I earnestly recommend him to your attention.

Very respectfully,
I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Yo. ob: Sert
Lew Cass.

Hon. John Armstrong,
Sec'y of war.

Abstract from Monthly Report of Troops under Cass

[Enclosure in Cass to Armstrong, Dec. 17]

Extract from the Monthly Report of the Troops, under the Command of Brigadier General Cass, including Detachments Stationed at Sandwich & Amhersburgh on the 1st December 1813.

Detroit 18th December 1813	Present							Rank & file on extra duty	Plat. off. in arrest	Absent			Aggregate	Alt. from last Report						
	For Duty					Sick														
	Genl. & staff	Field & staff	Plat. off.	Rank & file	Field & staff	Plat. off.	Rank & file			Field & staff	Plat. off.	Rank & file		Dead	Discharged	Deserted	Plat off.	Rank & file	Plat off.	Rank & file
Total.....	9	23	43	643	4	31	1261	149	3	6	18	337	2527	106	19	23	7	150	2	43

I Certify that the above is an exact Consolidation of the Monthly Report (as far as can be ascertained from the Documents in my hands) of the Troops under the Command of Brigadier General Cass on the 1st December 1813

C Gratiot

Captn of Engs [Corps?] B. M.

Cass to Meigs

[Enclosure in Cass to Armstrong, Dec. 17]

Copy.

Detroit Decr 17. 1813

Sir,

The unsettled state of this country, and the very doubtful conduct of the Indians, require, in my opinion, an addition to the force now here. I have no authority, from the Govt, to call upon your excellency for any troops. But, relying upon your zeal and patriotism, I have ventured to request, that you would detach, and hold in readiness, one thousand militia, properly officered, ready to recieve the orders of the Govt

I have, by this mail, informed the Secretary of war of the request I have made, and you will, doubtless, recieve his instructions respecting any ulterior measures to be taken. I have deemed this course proper, in order, should the Govt think the situation of this country rendered an increase of the force now here, necessary, that they might find that force organized, and prepared immediately to march.

Very respectfully,

I have the honor, to be,

yr Excys obt servt

Signd Lew Cass

A copy from the original

His Excellency, C. A. Norton, Aid de camp

Govr Meigs

McArthur to Armstrong

Chilli[c]othe Ohio Decr 24th 1813

Dear Sir,

I left Fort George on the 17th Ult. and returned home to my family, on a furlough from Genl Harrison, with instructions to remain here, until it should be necessary for me to attend Genl Hull's trial at Albany. From seeing it mentioned in a newspaper, that a court martial was to convene at Albany on the 3rd of Jany for the trial of Genl Hull. I expected ere this, to have received orders to repair to that place, but having received none nor any of the witnesses in this quarter being as yet subpoened; it is thought by some that the trial must again be postponed. Should it still be in contemplation, to try the Genl this winter, and thought necessary that I should attend the trial; I would be glad to receive early notice, as my bad state of health will not permit me to travel, so long a journey with expedition.

I have the honor to be
your Ob. Hb Servt
Duncan McArthur
Brigr Genl U.S. Army

The Hon. John Armstrong

Hull's Defence, March 16, 1814

Mr President & Gentlemen of the Court Martial.

I have too long & too severely felt the effects of public prejudice, excited by unfounded reports & groundless

clamours, not to rejoice that the time has arrived when I may speak in my own vindication, before an impartial & honorable tribunal—

The charges upon which you are now to decide have been propagated thro' the Union with a *Zeal & industry,* to which my age, my character and my former services, have in vain been opposed—

My reputation & feelings have been the sport of every one who either from malicious, selfish or political motives chose to traduce me. The time has been when no one would have dared, to couple dishonor with my name—When my heart has exulted to find myself mentioned among those who deserved well of their Country—But since my efforts to serve her have been unsuccessful how have I been tortured with cruel & unfounded accusations —even conscious innocence has not always given me fortitude to bear with this injustice unmoved. Knowing the integrity of my own motives and how Zealously I have sought to discharge my duty to the public, my heart has often swollen with indignation when I have seen the indefatigable pains that have been taken by repetitions of the foulest calumnies to excite & keep alive prejudices against me—Your own knowledge Gentlemen of what has been passing in the world, will convince you that this is not declamation but I shall shew you in the course of my defence that men from whose profession & whose rank it was not to be expected, have been parties in this injustice—

At length however, the time I have so anxiously desired, has arrived, when my conduct must be tested by *evidence* instead of the misrepresentations of my enemies —and I *do* feel a confidence that when you have pro-

nounced upon that evidence I may appeal to your judgment to refute the clamors which have been raised against me—

I cannot but think Mr President that the charges against me are exhibited in a form hitherto unprecedented in proceedings of this nature—It was not to be expected, that in a Court where the accused whatever may be his infirmities or incapacities to attend to his own defence is not permitted to have the benefit of Counsel, the charges would be enveloped in such a profusion of words that it is difficult for one not accustomed to the technical forms of pleadings in the civil courts to understand them and be so complicated by repetitions that it is still more difficult to reduce them to any order or analysis.—

It is extremely important however that the Court should ascertain & always bear in mind precisely of what I am accused—The course of proceeding which has been adopted by the Court, renders this the more necessary as testimony has been given which certainly cannot be applied to any of the specifications. The Court having thought proper to admit it with an intimation that any further objection which I might offer to its propriety or relevancy when I arrived at this stage of my defence would be considered—In submission to this decision of the Court I have omitted to make objections on this ground in several instances—I shall not attempt to offer an argument to the Court to prove the injustice of making one charge against a person and trying & convicting him [for] another—I did however understand from what passed when I first submitted to the Court an objection of this nature that an opinion was entertained by some of the members that tho' the testimony might

not apply to any specification—yet if the fact intended to be proved would come under either of the General charges the testimony would be proper—If this were so then there would be no use in the specifications—Indeed they would be worse than useless they would only mislead the accused and induce him to prepare against one accusation when he might be tried on another—

The propriety of admitting nothing under the general charge, for which there is not a specification I think will appear manifest by supposing that a general charge should be unofficerlike conduct and that the only specification should be insulting a superior. Suppose that under this general charge & specification testimony should be offered of absence without leave, this would also be unofficerlike conduct and therefore would come under the General charge—But would it not be the height of injustice to try the accused for absenting himself, a crime of which the charges gave him no notice—I trust the Court will see the validity of the objection, I am considering and that they will be careful to give no weight to any part of the testimony which does not apply to some one of the specifications—

I do not think it necessary to occupy the time of the Court, with a recapitulation of the charges, nor shall I exhaust your patience by attempting in my defence to follow the volume on your table through all its reiterations—It will be found for the most part to be a repetition of the same facts, displayed in the jargon of special pleading with an incongruous dissemination of such opprobrious epithets as fancy might furnish to heighten the imputation of guilt—I shall endeavour to arrange & consider the accusations in such order as will enable me

to bring my defence into some compass and to be the better understood—I shall particularly notice the charges which the Judge Advocate in his opening mentioned as those which he expected would be substantiated and I shall not omit to make my defence against every accusation which there has been the least testimony to support —The cardinal accusations if I may be permitted so to express myself are founded upon an alleged delay at Sandwich, the retreat from Canada and the surrender at Detroit—

If I can satisfy the Court that these acts were in themselves necessary or justifiable—it will then remain for me to answer such of the accusations as relate to the manner in which these acts were done—and to answer also some charges not immediately connected with these transactions—This course will embrace the whole of my defence—of this latter description is the first specification under the charge of Treason which relates to the vessel sent from the Miami—I shall therefore give this a separate consideration and as it stands first & highest in the black Catalogue of the crimes which are imputed to me and is repeated in other specifications, I shall in the first instance ask the attention of the Court to this subject—

I have already protested against the authority of this Court to decide upon this charge because Treason is a crime of which a Court Martial has no cognizance— Their power is confined to such Military crimes as are specified in the articles of War and their Jurisdiction is so limited, not only by the constitution but by the very articles themselves—I have thought it my duty in the most solemn manner to make & insist on this protest for

the sake of repelling a dangerous example and not as it respects myself or the case now under your consideration for my only desire is to acquit myself of the criminal acts & motives which have been so wantonly imputed to me—If I cannot succeed in this I am indifferent as to the names by which the crimes may be called and if I do not acquit myself of the other charges which are the most wounding to the feelings of a Soldier I am equally indifferent to the punishment that may be inflicted—I have no desire to preserve a life that shall be stigmatized by a conviction of this Court on the charges of cowardice.

The first specification under the charge of Treason relates to sending the vessel on the first of July from the Miami with hospital stores sick baggage, and army documents—As to sending the vessel with what she had on board execept the last article It is not disputed, but that for the reasons which according to the testimony of General McArthur I assigned for it at the time it would not have been an improper measure had not war been declared—

The whole criminality then in this respect rests on the truth of the allegation that I despatched the vessel knowing of the war and with a design to give traitorous intelligence to the Enemy.

It is very certain that I had no direct intelligence of the war on the first of July when the vessel was despatched —I had on the twenty sixth of June received a letter from the Secretary at war dated on the day war was declared the eighteenth of June—and I afterwards reecived another letter from him of the same date announcing to me the declaration of war. It seems to have been intimated that the letter of the eighteenth of June which I received

on the twenty sixth was the letter announcing the war—but I think the testimony of General McArthur settles that point—he acknowledges that I shewed him both the letter which I received on the twenty sixth of June at the time I received it—and also the letter which I received on the second of July at the time that letter came to my hands—But if the testimony of General McArthur and other witnesses left any doubt on this subject It must be removed by a reference to a letter from me to the Secretary at war which has been read by the Judge Advocate dated at Fort Findlay on the twenty sixth of June which acknowledges the receipt of the letter from him of the eighteenth of June which I had then received—In which I say *"in the event of a war"* it will be necessary to pursue certain measures—I think this is evidence not only that the letter which I had received on the twenty sixth of June was not the letter which announced the war; but that the letter which I did receive gave me no expectations that war was declared when I wrote—

It may be said however in the language of some of the specifications that tho' I had no certain information of the declaration of war when I despatched the vessel I had "sufficient cause to know and believe that war existed."—As I have said the first letter from the Secretary at war dated on the 18th of June gave me no cause to know or believe the fact all that is in that letter which could by any possibility be supposed to have relation to such an event, are these few words—"Circumstances have recently occurred which render it necessary you should pursue your march to Detroit with all possible expedition" This was but a reiteration of my former orders—In the letter from the Secretary at war of the

ninth of April I am directed "to repair with as little delay as possible to Detroit"—how then was I to infer from this letter that war had been declared—I did never suppose that if war was declared I should receive a peremptory order from Washington to march my whole army in all events to Detroit thereby leaving the Enemy at Malden eighteen miles in my rear directly on my line of communication with all the facilities which he had by reason of his command of the waters to cut off my supplies. such an order appeared to me so inconsistent with my military experience that I did not suppose it could have been founded on a declaration of war or even on a prospect of immediate hostilities. I did suppose that in the event of a war a discretion would have been left to me to conduct my troops in such a manner as I might judge from circumstances would be most conducive to their security and most likely to effect the destruction of the enemy and that I should have been left at Liberty to post my army in which I might think the most advantageous situation—I did suppose that when it was seen that war would be immediate & inevitable—I should have been informed of measures taken to reinforce me & to keep open the road which it was known I was obliged to make for near two hundred miles thro' the wilderness and on which my army must depend for its supplies—I did suppose that I should have been informed of co-operations intended for my support and of means provided for my communicating with those who might direct those co-operations—and I did suppose that I should have been informed of measures taken to obtain the command of the waters—All of my intercourse as well previously as subsequently to my appointment as I

shall hereafter prove with the executive officers of the Government, gave me reason to expect that all these masures would be pursued in the event of a war—

How then was I to understand from this simple intimation that circumstances had occurred which required that I should pursue my march to Detroit with expedition, that war was actually declared or immediately expected?—Besides it naturally occurred to me that if the circumstances alluded to by the Secretary were a declaration of war or such as would immediately lead to it—I should be told so explicitly—I could conceive no reason for making his communications to me in ambiguous terms—

But it may be said that General McArthur has proved by the testimony which he has given relative to conversations he had with me when I received the letter from the Secretary at war on the twenty sixth June and when I dispatched the vessel on the first of July that I had "sufficient cause to know or believe that war then existed."

General McArthur's testimony on this subject is as follows "On the evening of the twenty sixth June an express arrived from Chilicothe, bearing a letter for me another for General Hull—I went with the bearer to General Hull who opened his letter and handed it to me—it was from the Secretary at war, dated 18. June 1812. It stated that circumstances had occurred that made it necessary that the General should proceed to Detroit, take measures for defence, & wait for further orders—I also received a letter from a friend quoting a postscript to a letter from General Worthington a Senator in congress, which postscript said "before this reaches you

war will be declared.''—I stated to the General that Colonel Dunlap the bearer of the express had told me that before that time war was declared—The General then asked me what I thought of the Secretary's letter I said I thought it a notice of a declaration of war—the General said it seemed very much like it—The General & I had a great deal of conversation on the information we had from time to time received and we appeared to agree that war was certainly declared—''

General McArthur further testified that on the morning of the day on which we left the encampment near the Miami ''The General sent for me to his tent and stated that he thought of sending the baggage by water from that place— I said I thought it hazardous that possibly the British might have information of war and might take the vessel The General replied he could not imagine there was any danger, the wind was fair & the vessel would pass in a short time, adding that he could not take upon himself the responsibility of carrying on the teams any further—I think there was a verbal or written order to embark the baggage, I stated to the General that I did not like to send on my baggage but if it was a general order it must be complied with—We proceeded on towards Detroit and on the first or second evening after the commandants of Corps were called to the tent of General Hull and were informed that a letter had been received from the Secretary at war announcing the delaration of war—''

The witness further stated in some part of his examination that notwithstanding the order he sent nothing by the vessel but his mess boxes.

I must beg leave first to remark to the Court that this

testimony of General McArthur affords strong evidence of the fallability of his memory For he states that the letter from the Secretary at war which I shewed to him at Fort Findley on the twenty sixth of June ordered me to proceed to Detroit take measures for defence and wait for further orders—An order to prepare for defence would have been a much more significant intimation of a declaration of war than any thing the letter contained—A copy of the letter furnished by the war department is before the Court and will prove how far General McArthur can be mistaken—The expressions—which he gives as having been contained in the letter which he saw on the Twenty sixth of June are contained in the letter announcing the war which was shown to him on the second of July—It cannot be pretended that he might have seen this last mentioned letter on the twenty sixth of June because if that had been so there could not have been after the explicit information contained in that letter any such debate as he states there was between us on the twenty sixth of June as to the possibility of war having been declared—I do not mean to charge General McArthur with a wilful misrepresentation I have no doubt but that the Zeal which he has manifested for my conviction has led him into this mistake—As this is the highest charge against me he probably has felt the most anxiety that it should be substantiated and his mind has adopted as the impressions of his memory what are only the results of his wishes—I mark this inaccurcy of General McArthur the more particularly to shew that inasmuch as he was so materially mistaken with respect to the contents of the letter which he states he had in his hand and deliberately perused and has confounded what

passed at one time with what occurred at another, he may very possibly be as far mistaken in relation to the conversations he has related—

I do aver that in respect to the conversation which he relates as having passed between us on the Twenty sixth of June he is mistaken or rather he represents it in a manner calculated to make impressions altogether different from what in truth it ought to do. After he had informed me of the letter he had received quoting the Postscript from General Worthington and after he had communicated to me what had been said by Colonel Dunlap the bearer of the letters I might have said, it seemed like war, or made use of some expression of that sort—But I deny that I ever said that the *Secretary's letter* seemed like war, on the contrary that letter induced me to suppose notwithstanding the Postscript from General Worthington and the information of Colonel Dunlap that war could not have been declared—

I beg the Court to remark that neither the Postscript or the information of Colonel Dunlap did state or could have stated that war was declared but merely gave their opinions that war would be declared by the time the letters were received without stating any grounds for their opinions—Considering however the information of General Worthington as coming from a source entitled to great respect & consideration it induced me to think it possible that war might have been declared But when I found day after day passing without intelligence from the Government when I found that on the first of July five days had elapsed since the arrival of Colonel Dunlap and when I felt confident that not a moment would be lost in dispatching a messenger to me whenever war was

declared I was satisfied that the information which had been communicated to me through General McArthur had no other foundation than those rumours and expectations which had been so long afloat throughout the Country—One circumstance was a strong inducement to believe that the relations of peace with Great Britain had not been interrupted—When I left Washington the Secretary of war had told me it was not expected that war would be declared before the fourth of July This is a fact tho' the Secretary at war has answered to the ninth interrogatory addressed to him that "he had not such a recollection of the conversation between us respecting the probable time of the declaration of war as to enable him to answer satisfactorily on that subject" —But as I had not on the first of July when I dispatched the vessel received myself any information of the declaration of war—I was to presume that the Enemy could not have been apprized of that event. it appeared to me an inadmissible imputation on the administration to suppose it possible that they would suffer information of intended hostilities to be conveyed to the enemy before it could reach their own General—Yet it was fourteen days after War was declared before I had any information of it—Tho' it appears that a letter from the Secretary at war written on the eighteenth of June had reached me at fort Findley in seven days, and an attention to the dates of the correspondence between me & the war department will shew that the communication between the City of Washington & the army even when it was in Canada might be made in eight or ten days. In the Secretary's letter to me of the first of August which has been read he acknowledges the receipt of mine of the nine-

teenth of July by Captain Curtis who left my head quarters at Sandwich on the twentieth of July—I never heard that any duplicate of the letter of the eighteenth of June was written to me or that the letter was delayed by any accident nor do I know that any letter was written to me by the administration after war was declared except the one of the eighteenth of June till the twenty fourth of the same month when six days had elapsed. A letter written at Washington on the eighteenth of June might have reached me by express in five days—But the letter which was to give me the first information of the war if it left Washington on the eighteenth or nineteenth of June could not have travelled at a greater rate than thirty miles a day—

I think after this statement the Court will not say that it was *treasonable* in me to conclude, that it was impossible the administration should have left me ignorant of the war when it might be known to the enemy.

I beg to direct the attention of the Court to the testimony of General Cass upon this point He had a perfect knowledge of all the circumstances with which General McArthur & myself were acquainted, he had seen the letter of the eighteen of June from the Secretary at war which I received on the twenty-sixth. He knew what information General McArthur had received from his correspondent and from Colonel Dunlap—He testifies that when the vessel was dispatched from the Miami he had no reason to believe that at that time I knew of the war He had no conversation with me which could induce such a belief—He sent his own baggage & servant by the vessel which on his cross examination he says he certainly

should not have done if he had had any thought that war then existed—

But it appears that immediately after the receipt of the letter announcing to me the declaration of war—I used every possible exertion to recal the vessel—I refer the Court on this point to the testimony of Captain Fuller —This conduct is entirely inconsistent with the criminal intentions which are imputed to me in respect to this transaction

It remains for me to notice that part of this charge which states that I put on board the army documents and papers whereby the Enemy were made acquainted with the force of the army the designs of the government and with the declaration of war

I do not hesitate to acknowledge that it was improper to trust the documents which were put on board that vessel to such a conveyance or even for me to part with them in any way whether in peace or war—But I trust it has satisfactorily appeared to the Court from the testimony of Captain Hull—that this was owing to an accident which might have happened to the most careful commander—

I had ordered my baggage to be put on board the vessel not supposing it possible that the trunk containing my papers could have been considered by my aid de camps included in that order and it was not till after the vessel had departed that with equal surprize & regret I learnt that my aid de camp had with my baggage shipped a trunk which contained nothing but papers—There is one allegation in this charge that I feel myself authorized to repel with some indignation because I think it could only have been made with a view to exculpate others from

misconduct at my expence by an attempt to make it be believed that the Enemy derived a knowledge of the war from the Capture of this vessel—If this were so how is it to be accounted for that the Enemy should have assailed her in a hostile manner before she was captured

The Court will recollect that Lieutenant Gooding states that when the vessel was off Bois banch Island the enemy's armed brig Hunter bore down upon her and that she was pursued by a Batteau from Malden filled with armed men—but the suggestion that the Enemy derived their knowledge of the declaration of War from the papers found on board the vessel is repelled by the fact that this vessel had no documents on board which could possibly give them that information—She could not have had for I had no such documents in my possession at the time she sailed from the rapids of the Miami It is also a fact that is now notorious that the enemy had received information of the passing of the act declaring War several days before I had any communication from Washington on the subject—It is as ungenerous as it is unjust to charge the Enemy's prior knowledge of the declaration of war to any act of mine—I have now closed my defence on this first specification under the charge of Treason—and altho' I persist in my objection to this Courts taking cognizance of that Crime; Yet I have given the charge a full examination because the same facts are specified under the charge of unofficerlike conduct—and I shall rely upon what I have now said for my vindication against the specification which relates to this subject under that charge—

To sustain this charge of Treason there are two other specifications, one relating to the supposed delay in at-

tacking Malden and the retreat from Sandwich. The other to the surrender of Detroit—But as there is a repetition of these specifications under the two other charges I shall not now notice them further than to observe—That these specifications under the charge of Treason allege that the delay, the retreat and the surrender were all in pursuance of a traitorous combination & conspiracy between me & certain enemies of the United States whose names are unknown—If the Court had cognizance of this crime of treason, I could not be convicted unless the traitorous combination & conspiracy were proved. I might ask where is the evidence of any combination or conspiracy between me & the enemy—but I forbear with indignation from the examination of such a question—And now when the Court has before it all the testimony that the utmost efforts of my prosecutors has been able to bring against me I ask them to judge from what malignant source the information which could have suggested this charge must have been drawn—Some of the witnesses who have testified against me have furnished the materials from which the Gentleman employed by the government to frame the charges must have drawn them. They must then have made suggestions to him which they dare not attempt to support by their own oaths or by one particle of proof and which could have resulted only from the bitterness of their own hearts towards me—

Pursuant to the arrangement of my defence which I have before suggested—I shall next consider the specifications which charge me with crimes or misconduct, in delaying to attack Malden, in withdrawing the army from Canada and in making the final surrender.—

There are, as I have said accusations which are not

immediately connected with these transactions, and these I shall notice in the course of my defence—But if I should satisfy this Court that these cardinal accusations are unsupported—that the measures to which they refer were fit and proper and such as circumstances required or if it should now appear, that a different course in respect to either of these measures ought to have been adopted Yet if I should satisfy the members of this Court, that in my conduct upon these occasions I have been actuated by the purest motives & a sense of duty, I trust I shall not be judged criminal I shall not pretend that I may not have erred, but error & crime are not convertable terms.—

When I accepted a commission from the government I pledged to them my utmost Zeal & ability in discharge of the duties of the office they conferred upon me and I trust that pledge will not be considered as forfeited tho' it should appear to this Court that on some occasions my Judgment may have misdirected me—The profession of a soldier would not be longer honourable, if neither the purest intentions or the most zealous exertions could shield him from criminal imputations on the errors of his judgment—

My defence Mr President on these points as well as all others will be a relation of facts & circumstances and an exposition of the considerations & motives which have governed my conduct.—

You cannot Gentlemen form a just decision upon my case nor judge of the considerations which have influenced my conduct unless you understand what were my views & the views & expectations of the executive officers of the Government of the United States in respect to the North-

western Army its relations & objects when I accepted my commission in April 1812—

I feel some embarrassment in presenting to you, this part of my case, I am well aware that it may be said that I am attempting to exculpate myself by censuring others. I well know too that the political feelings of many persons are so sensible & warm that the slightest imputation of misconduct against the administration will excite their prejudice and that such prejudices are the more likely to be roused when the charges are made by one who is prosecuted by the administration—But Gentlemen I shall say nothing of the officers of the Government that is not supported by irrefragable testimony I shall only present for your consideration facts which are proved by documents before you, and shall make no observations upon them which are not obviously & absolutely necessary for my defence—Much less shall I attempt to charge the administration with any wilful misconduct—I believe every member of it to have been actuated by the purest motives and the most ardent zeal in preparations for and prosecution of an inevitable war—A *war* in which I should never have enlisted had I not believed it both just & necessary—and while my country is engaged in such a contest, let my former services to her, let my former character shield me from the suspicion that I would voluntarily say one word that shall lessen the confidence of my countrymen in those, under whose auspices our battles must be fought and by whose wisdom & strength our misfortunes are to be redeemed and our honour is to be saved—

But in my own vindication, and in defence of that honor which the Government have now put at stake, I

am obliged to say that the army I commanded had not that co-operation & support which when I accepted my commission the Government gave me reason to expect, and without the prospect of which, I should never with the force that was placed under my command have thought of carrying on offensive operations against Upper Canada nor even have placed my army unless in obedience to orders in the situation in which it was after its arrival on the waters of Lake Erie—

When I accepted the command of the Northwestern Army I did not suppose that in the event of a war with Great Britain the force of that army would be adequate to conquer Upper Canada, nor did I believe that the administration had such an opinion—But on the contrary I did understand and such it will appear was the understanding of the executive officers of the government that in the event of a war the operations of my army would be strengthened & secured by a competent naval force on Lake Erie and by the direction of other forces against the Enemy's territory—Had these expectations been realized instead of having lingered out so many months as a prosecuted criminal instead of now standing before you as an accused I might still have shared my Country's confidence The foul charges to which I am now to answer would not have thus blasted the laurels of my youth; But even in the wilds of Canada and amidst these whitened locks they might have retained their prestine verdure.—

I proceed Gentlemen to turn your attention to the documents by a reference to which I mean to shew what were my views and expectations and what I had a right to suppose were the views & expectations of the adminis-

tration on the subject which we are now considering.—
The first paper read by the Judge Advocate was a memorial addressed by me in 1809 to the then Secretary at war—
From this memorial the following is an extract—

"My residence at Detroit for four years has given me some knowledge of our Northern & Western frontier and I take the liberty of communicating to you such facts as have fallen under my observation. The opinion I have formed and the measures which appear to me the most expedient under the existing state of things—"

After a variety of suggestions and among others that tho' war should not take place it would be necessary to have a larger force in Upper Canada than was then there. The memorial is as follows—

"I would likewise suggest for consideration the expediency of building some armed vessels on Lake Erie, for the purpose of preserving the communication *consider,* you have *three military posts* to the North & West of these waters and no other communication with them."

It is true this memorial was written in time of peace but the suggestion as to the naval force could only be with reference to its use in war.—I do not know for what purpose this memorial was read by the Judge Advocate unless it were to shew of what importance I thought our possession of Detroit—Sir, my opinion on that subject has ever been and is yet the same as is expressed in that memorial—I thought the administration had the same sentiments and therefore I was the more firmly persuaded that the administration would have taken every possible means to support the army which was sent for its protection. At the moment I was surrendering that

Fortress a conviction of its great importance increased the poignant regret I felt for the necessity of the measure—

On the 6th of March 1812 which was about a month before I was appointed to a command in the army I addressed another memorial to the administration which is so important to shew my views with respect to the force to be directed against Upper Canada in the event of a war that I beg leave to read the whole of it—It is in the following words—

"Washington, 6th March, 1812"—

"(COPY.)"

"Sir,

The prompt manner in which you have adopted measures for the protection of Detroit and the other Settlements in the territory of Michigan inspire me with confidence that such ulterior arrangements will speedily be made as the peculiar situation of that section of the United States may require—

"How far the measures already adopted will give security to that part of the Country in the event of war with Great Britain is a subject worthy of consideration.—

"Officers of a company have been appointed with orders to recruit in the Territory.—

"The Secretary acting as Governor has been authorized to make a detachment of four Companies of Militia & call them into actual service—

"The commanding officer of Fort Detroit has been directed to erect Batteries on the Banks of the river Detroit for the protection of the town—

"*These* as incipient measures I very much approve and

was particularly pleased with the decisive manner they were adopted—It must be apparent however they add no *physical* strength to that section of the Country—the force already there is only better organized & prepared to be called into action—By comparing this force with the force which may be opposed to us will evince the necessity of additional means of defence if the Country is worth preserving—

"In the Fort of Detroit I understand by the last returns there are less than one hundred regulars The Population of the Territory is less than Five thousand, and this population of the Territory principally of Canadian character Connected with the post of Detroit and three hundred miles north is the Island of Michilimacinac, where is a Fort garrisoned by a company of regulars. Near the south bend of Lake Michigan on the Westerly side is Fort Dearborn likewise garrisoned by a company of Regulars.—

"This is all the force on which we can at present calculate for the safety of our frontier and for the protection of the Indians which the United States are bound by treaties to afford.—

No support can be derived from the Indian nations, even in the event of war because our officers are instructed to advize them to remain neuter and not to accept their services if they should be offered—

"I will now consider the British force opposed to this part of the United States—

"A Fort at Amherstburgh at the mouth of the Detroit river garrisoned by about one hundred British Troops —Another Fort on the Island of St. Josephs at the mouth of the river St. Mary's garrisoned by about Fifty British

Troops—Two armed ships on Lake Erie which command the waters and would prevent all communication from the States thro' that channel—A population of at least fifty thousand in that part of Upper Canada which is connected with the Detroit river & Lake Erie and could easily be brought to operate against our settlements

About four thousand men principally Canadians employed in the Indian trade and under British influence —and lastly may be reckoned all the Indians in Upper Canada and a large proportion of the powerful nations residing in the territory of the United States who now hold a constant & friendly intercourse with the British agents and are liberally fed & clothed by the bounty of the British Government—

"It appears from this statement that the British force which can be brought to operate against us in the Territory is more than ten to one without including the Indians.—

"It requires no difficult reasoning to determine what must be the consequence—that part of the United States *must* fall into the hands of the British Government with all the Inhabitants, the Forts at Chicago, Michilimackinac & Detroit and all the public stores with the public & private vessels on the Lake—

"This will give our Enemies the entire command of all Country North & Northwest of the Miami of Lake Erie and the settlements on the western part of the State of Ohio will be subject to the depredations of the powerful northern nations of Savages—There is nothing in my opinion (in the event of war) can prevent this state of things, but an adequate force on the Detroit River, opposite to the Settlements in Upper Canada—It may be

asked how is this force to be placed there and how is it to be supported? If Sir, we cannot command the ocean we can command the inland lakes of our Country—I have always been of the opinion that we ought to have built as many armed vessels on the Lakes as would have commanded them—We have more interest in them than the British nation and can build vessels with more convenience—If however there is no intention of the kind that communication must be abandoned until we take possession of the Canadas—

"The army which marches into the Country must open roads thro' the wilderness and the supplies of provisions & whatever else may be necessary must pass by land thro' the State of Ohio—If the conquest of the Canadas is the object of the Government, they will then have an army in a proper situation to commence the operations and at the same time protect the defenceless Inhabitants and controul the Indians within our Territory The answer probably may be it is more expedient to leave the Michigan Territory to its fate & direct the force to Montreal—This will prevent all communication by the St. Lawrence with Upper Canada and it must of course surrender—In this expectation I think it probable there would be a disappointment if a force is not sent sufficient to oppose the British force which may be collected at Amhersburgh and its vicinity, Detroit, Michilimackinac & Chicago must fall—the Inhabitants must once more change their allegiance and the Indians become the exclusive friends & allies of the King their great Father—In the Garrisons at these places they will find large quantities of arms & military stores of every kind—Upper Canada and our Country of which they will be in the

possession, will furnish them with provisions—How then will Upper Canada be conquered by possessing Montreal? they will be in the quiet possesion of their Country & a part of ours and how are they to be approached? You cannot approach them by water because they command the Lakes In approaching them by Land you must pass through a widerness filled with Savages under British controul & devoted to British interest—The consequences of such an attempt may probably be best learned from the history of the campaign in that very Country conducted by Generals Harmer, St Clair & Wayne. In Upper Canada they have a Governor who is a Major General in their army who commands the Regular Troops the Militia & the Indians—the whole force of the Country is therefore combined under his command & may be directed to a single point without any collision—

"From the preceeding state of facts & observations it must be apparent that Fort Detroit and the Settlements in its neighbourhood and likewise Michilimackinac & Chicago under present circumstances are in the power of the British and that their possession of them would be extremely calamitous to the United States—

"In the event of peace with England I am of the opinion that the northern frontier ought to be better protected than it is at present In the event of War and the object being the reduction of the provinces of Upper & Lower Canada I think it must be evident that the establishment of an army at Detroit sufficient to defend that part of the Country controul the Indians & commence operations on the weakest points of defence of the Enemy would be an incipient measure indispensibly necessary—With respect to the other points of attack I shall make

no observations as I probably shall have no agency in them—In considering this subject I have endeavored to divest myself of all local feelings and grounded my observations & opinions on public considerations alone—

"Two things appear to me to be certain, one is that in the event of war the Enemy will attempt to take possession of that Country with a view to obtain the assistance of the Indians residing in our Territory; and the other is that under its present circumstances of defence it will be in their power to do it. A part of your army now recruiting may be as well supported & disciplined at Detroit as at any other place—A force adequate to the defence of that vulnerable point would prevent a war with the Savages and probably induce the Enemy to abandon the province of Upper Canada without opposition—The naval force on the Lakes would in that event fall into our possession and we should obtain the command of the waters without the expence of building such a force—

"The British cannot hold Upper Canada without the assistance of the Indians and that assistance they cannot obtain if we have an adequate force in the situation I have pointed out—

"There is another consideration very important. It will do more to prevent a General Indian War with the Indians as far west & beyond the Mississipi than any other measure—The Indians cannot conduct a war without the assistance of a civilized nation

"The British establishment at Amherstburgh is the great emporium from which even the the [sic] most distant Indians receive their supplies A force at the point I mentioned would prevent all communication of the In-

dians with that post—Indeed Sir in every point of view in which the subject can be considered it appears to me of the first importance to adopt the measure—"

"I am very Respectfully
Your most obedt Servt
Wm Hull"

To this document is annexed a Copy of a letter from me to the Secretary at War and the two documents are certified as authentic documents in the following words—

"Copy of the original on file in the War Office"
D. Parker Chief Clerk

Can it be supposed, after this exposition of my views of what would be the Enemies force and situation that I could ever have taken the command of about four hundred regular Troops and sixteen hundred Militia to effect by means of such a force without any assistance or co-operation, the conquest of a Province a part only of which I had represented as containing Fifty thousand Inhabitants? That I could have contemplated an attack on an enemy having at its disposal a body of Regular Troops, the controul over countless Savages and the great advantage of the command of the Lakes & Waters? —This memorial was received & approved by the Government, This in itself is proof of their adoption of its sentiments, and that it was their opinion as well as mine, that in the event of a war such an army as was put under my command could do nothing offensive without we had a naval force on the Upper Lakes, and without a co-operation on other parts of the enemies Territory which should distract his attention and prevent his bringing the greatest weight of his power on a single point—

A few days after I was appointed to the command of the North western army I presented another memorial to the President thro' the war department in which I was explicit as to what might be expected from such a force as I was to lead; as to the necessity of reinforcements; of our commanding the Lakes and the necessity of a co-operation in other quarters—My draft of this memorial I have lost in the way which I shall hereafter explain. The existence of the origin[al] & its general purport is proved by Mr Eustis who in his answer to the sixth & seventh interrogatories addressed to him says "I have a perfect recollection of your having presented the memorial referred to in the interrogatory; I recollect" he adds "your attendance by appointment at the war office the memorial or that part of it which related to the naval defence of Lake Erie was referred or communicated to the Secretary of the Navy who was present. The Brig Adams which had been employed as a transport under direction of the War Department, became the subject of conversation; whether she was (being then on the stocks repairing) actually transferred to the Navy Department I do not distinctly recollect, if that was the case the evidence is on record."—

Yet this memorial, or a copy of it I have never been able to obtain—I have applied for it to the Secretary at War. He referred me to the Secretary of the Navy, The Secretary of the Navy to Mr Dallas; To him I applied and he referred me to the present Judge Advocate who knows nothing of it: And finally when my trial commenced in this City I addressed a Letter to the President of the United States, requesting him to interpose his authority to procure me a document which I considered so

important in my defence—It was Sir, too much for me to have expected an answer from the President himself, tho' the time was when such an answer would not have been considered as conferring too great an honour.—

The President referred my letter to the Gentlemen at the head of the war & navy departments—They also would not condescend to answer my letter but handed it over to their clerks—The elevation of these Gentlemen seems to have rendered them giddy—I ask, would it not have comported with the importance of the occasion, The decorum due to an old man and a veteran Soldier, not yet convicted of any crime, for the Secretaries themselves to have addressed me?

But in answer to my letter I received a letter from the Chief Clerk in the war office Dated February 12, 1814 with a certificate from the Chief Clerk in the Navy Department. The letter from the war office is in the following words—

"War Office
Feby. 12th 1814."

"Sir,

Your letter of the 1st instant addressed to the President of the United State has been referred to me—In answer to which I have the honor to state, that all your communications to the War Depart. after you were appointed Brigadier General in the Army have been transmitted to P.S. Parker Esquire, Judge Advocate of the Court Martial, now sitting at Albany together with such others as you had required as far as they could be found on the files of this office—The public records of papers of the War Department have been constantly within my observation & charge for several years past and I assure

you Sir I have never seen or heard of "a memoir pointing out the necessity of a Navy on Lake Erie."—Since the receipt of you letter I have carefully examined the files and enquired of every Gentleman attached to the department without being able to give any information on the subject—"

I have the honor to be Sir very
respectfully, your obt servt.—
DANIEL PARKER, C. C."

Brigadier General
William Hull, Albany."

It is unaccountable Mr President that a public document of this nature should be lost. That it did exist and was on the files of the war office, is proved beyond controversy, by the deposition of the late Secretary at War who swears, that he has a *perfect recollection of it.* But a most extraordinary part of this letter from the war department is that which states that the writer has had the public records, and papers of the war department constantly under his charge & observation for several years past, yet that he never knew or heard of a memorial pointing out the necessity of a navy on lake Erie. Mr President it is a fact hardly to be credited that the Copy of the memorial of the 6th of March 1812, from which I made that copy which I have just read to the Court, is certified as a true copy from the files of the war office by *the very Gentleman* who writes me the letter of the 14th of February. Let me quote from the memorial of the 6th of March or rather from the Copy certified as I have mentioned above, a passage which is in the following

words "If Sir we cannot command the ocean we can command the inland Lakes of our Country—I have always been of the opinion that we ought to have built as many armed vessels on the Lakes as would have commanded them—We have more interest in them than the British nation and can build vessels with more convenience—If however there is no intention of the kind that communication must be abandoned until we take possession of the Canadas—"

When the writer of the letter had certified a copy of this memorial but a few days ago, how could he say that he never knew or heard of a memorial pointing out the necessity of a navy on Lake Erie?—

I will not presume Sir that the writer of the letter intends an equivoque & designs that his meaning shall turn upon the use of the word *necessity*. This I think would not be consistent with the solemnity of the occasion on which his letter is written nor Sir would it serve him. Because it is impossible to read my memoir of the 6th of March without perceiving that I do from the beginning to the end point out the necessity of a Navy, in every sense in which the word necessity can be applied on such a subject. I am very far Sir, from meaning to insinuate in the remotest degree that the letter from the Clerk of the war department contains any intentional misrepresentation! His character & station protects him from such a suspision and as the memorial which proves the inconsistency of the letter has been furnished the declaration in the letter could not have been made with any sinister design. And I have only trespassed on the patience of the Court with these observations on this subject to shew that as the memorial of the 6th of March 1812, has

been so entirely forgotten at the war office the certificate from thence that a memorial pointing out the necessity of a navy on Lake Erie was never read or heard of there is no sort of evidence that another such may not have existed as well as that of the 6th of March—

The certificate from the navy department has been read It will appear in the minutes and I shall trouble the Court with no remarks upon it—

In respect to this memorial, I can now only rest upon my own declarations which I think when I am in this manner deprived of the benefit of the paper, I am authorised to make. It did contain a representation in the most explicit & strongest terms of the necessity of our having a naval force superior to the Enemy on the Lakes and that without it and unless the army I was to command was strengthened by additions to its numbers and unless it were followed by detachments to keep open the communication and insure its supplies from Ohio, and unless it was supported by co-operations in other quarters my army could not be able to maintain itself at Detroit much less carry on offensive operations in the enemies Country—

That such were the views & sentiments of the Government as to my expedition as well as my own and that I was not expected to do more than protect Detroit and that quarter and to keep in awe the Indians will further appear from the facts & documents to which I shall now refer—

Upon this subject, I beg to turn the attention of the Court to the testimony of General Porter—It will prove not only how pressing I was on the subject of a naval force with the Secretaries but with the President him-

self—The deposition of Captain Charles Steward of the navy states that at an interview he had with the Secretary of the Navy in the beginning of April 1812. The Secretary informed him "That it was contemplated to give him the command on the Lakes that a naval force superior to the British on the Lakes had been strongly urged by General Hull *as essential,* and as a certain means of ensuring to the army success—"

I beg the court to notice that it is here stated that I had *strongly* urged that the command of the Lakes was *essential* to success—

The first letter which I received from the Secretary of War after my appointment and which is dated the 9th of April 1812 describes the force which was to be under my command the description of itself I presume must preclude an idea that it could have been intended for invasion or conquest. But its objects are expressed in this letter I am directed as the commander of that force to "adopt such measures with the chiefs of the several tribes of Indians as might in my judgement appear to be best calculated to secure the peace of the Country—"

In the first letter which I received from the war department dated the 18th of June and which was delivered to me on the 26th of the same month—I am directed to pursue my march to Detroit with all possible expedition—and the second letter from the Secretary at war of the same date which announced to me the war gives me the same positive command to proceed to that post. If the army I commanded had been deemed competent to carry on offensive operations against the enemy without any assistance or support my orders would certainly have been of a different nature It would have been left to

my discretion to pursue such measures, as I might have judged most efficacious—With an army competent to make an invasion, Detroit would not have been the point from which it should have been made.—
A station opposite Amherstburgh would have been on many accounts a preferable position but Detroit was the proper situation for the army for the purpose of protecting the Territory & Inhabitants of Michigan and of keeping in awe the Savage tribes—
I beg that it may be observed that I do not pretend that it was not contemplated that the army I commanded when I was appointed to it might be emloyed in offensive operations against the British in the event of a war; But I am endeavoring to shew and I trust shall satisfy the Court that neither myself nor the officers of the Government ever supposed it would be competent to act as an offensive army unless it was assisted & supported or unless as was supposed might be the case, such a *defection* of the Inhabitants of Canada to the Government and a *Union* of the Indians with us should happen on the appearance of my army as would in a great measure destroy the enemies means of resistance—

The next letter I received from the Secretary at War is dated the 24th June 1812—This letter informs me that I am authorized to commence offensive operations—This would not have been the Language addressed to me upon this occasion if the Government had supposed I had a force sufficient to commence such operations. In that case I should have received a Command instead of an authority.—In this letter the Secretary adverts to my taking possession of Malden; But not as if he supposed I had the power of doing it; I am not to make the attempt

unless the force under my command should be equal to the enterprize nor unless I could do it consistently with the safety of my own posts.—

The caution which it is thought necessary to communicate to me by this letter to be limited in my assurances of protection to the Canadians and the notice that it conveys me that an adequate force cannot be relied upon for the reduction of the Enemies posts below is evidence that my army was not thought sufficient to maintain itself in the enemies Country without assistance & Co-operation—

In my letter to the Secretary at War of the 9th July 1812—which is in answer to that I have last mentioned, in which I am told that I am authorized to commence offensive operations, I expressed in the most explicit terms my opinion of the inadequacy of my force to the only offensive operation which could be undertaken from that quarter—My words are "The British command the water & the Savages; I do not think the force here equal to the reduction of Amherstburgh you must not therefore be too sanguine—" I beg the Court to remark that this letter was written immediately after my arrival at Detroit and a few days before I passed into Canada of course before I had any knowledge of the fall of Michilimackinac, an event which had so decisive an influence on my subsequent operations—

On the 10th of July I wrote two letters to the Secretary at War both on the subject of Provisions for the army—I mentioned to him in the first that the contractor could not furnish the supplies on account of the Lakes being closed against us by the British naval force—In the second letter I reiterate the same information and also

inform the Secretary that I have made a new contract for provisions which as they cannot be transported on the lake, must be carried on horses from Ohio thro' the wilderness. My letter concludes with these words—"The communication must be secured or this army will be without provisions. Troops will be absolutely necessary on the road to protect the provisions—This must not be neglected. If it is this army will perish by hunger"!
The receipt of these letters is acknowledged by the Secretary at War in his letter to me of the 26th of July 1812—To this letter from the War department I wish particularly to direct the attention of the Court. It shews that the Government well understood the situation of my army and how much it stood in need of assistance & support.

By this letter I am informed, that Governor Meigs has been directed to furnish Troops to guard the road & insure the Transportation of provisions; that General Winchester had been ordered to reinforce me with Fifteen hundred men—that a force was collecting at Niagara; that the commander in chief would be apprized of my situation and directed to take measures to afford me the necessary support.—
It is not my intention, at this moment, to shew that none of the expectations which this letter authorized, were ever realized. I now refer to it only as I have mentioned to prove that the officers of the executive Government must have considered my army situated as it was, incompetent to carry on of itself effectual operations against the enemy—
In my letter to the Secretary at war of the 19th of July are the following paragraphs—

"If you have not a force at Niagara the whole force of the Province will be directed against this army."— "It is all important that Niagara should be invested all our success will depend on it—"

There has been read by the Judge Advocate a letter from the Secretary at War to me, dated the first of August. This letter I never received; It however shews no less on that account, how necessary it was thought that a diversion should be made in favour of the army I commanded; I therefore extract from it the following paragraph.—

"On the 26th July your letters of the 7th & 10th were inclosed to General Dearborn with a copy of mine to you of the 26th accompanied with a request that he would make a diversion in your favour. The General must have received this letter at Albany—By the mail of this evening yours of the 29th is inclosed to him with an instruction to make a diversion at Niagara & Kingston as soon as practicable—"

In another letter from the Secretary of War of the first of August he acknowledges the receipt of my proclamation to the Canadians I now refer to that proclamation merely to direct the attention of the Court to that part in which I say that the force I commanded was "but the vanguard of a much greater" I do this to shew the confidence I then had that the corps I commanded was to be reinforced and supported—

Viz

"On the twentieth of August the Secretary of War addressed a letter to me which I did not receive but from which I here quote a paragraph to shew how necessary he thought Co-operation was for my support The para-

graph is in the following words—"Orders have been given to General Dearborn to attack the enemies posts at Niagara and Kingston as soon as may be practicable. Our force at Niagara according to General Dearborn's account will amount to twenty four hundred, and he will notify you of such movements & operations as he may order—"

It is from these documents which have all been introduced by the Judge Advocate that I prove what I have undertook to do—that when I took command of the Northwestern army, It was understood by the Administration as well as by myself, that in the event of a war with Great Britain my force was to be augmented—that my communication with the State of Ohio was to be preserved by Troops from that quarter, that the lakes were to be commanded by us and that my operations were to be facilitated by diversions on the frontiers below me.—

The Court will hereafter perceive what an important influence a disappointment in all these particulars had on the events under consideration, and will not therefore I hope think I have uselessly trespassed on their time by detaining them so long on this part of the subject.—

I cannot however omit one farther remark. I would ask the Court if subsequent events do not exclude a supposition that the administration did expect, that my army was in all events to be of itself adequate to the invasion & conquest of the enemies Country, unless it be admitted that there was an entire ignorance of what was necessary to accomplish these objects—For we have since seen General Harrison with an army more than quadruple to that which I led for more than a year threatening the enemy on the same point where he was invaded by my

army—and tho' ten thousand troops were co-operating with him on the points where I had been led to expect co-operation yet he had not dared to set his foot on the enemies shore till after our Glorious Naval Victory on Lake Erie, and was then obliged to content himself with the possession of no greater Territory than his Troops could cover—

I must intreat the Court before I proceed to the consideration of other matters to indulge me with the repetition of a remark which is so necessary for the understanding the subsequent parts of my defence that I am anxious to impress it on their minds. It is that tho' as I have said and I trust I have proved it was understood both by the Administration & by myself that the force which I commanded would not in all events in case of war be competent to the invasion & conquest of Canada—Yet both the officers of the Executive Government & myself did contemplate that in certain events I might with the army which I led subdue the enemies posts in the Upper Canada—It was contemplated & believed that there would be a very general defection of the Inhabitants of that Province and that many of them would arrange themselves under the American Standard—And it was also contemplated and believed that it would be possible for me to draw from them the aid of the Savages—

When I landed in Canada and previously to the fall of Michilimackinac, there was every reason to believe that these expectations would be realized—Until *that* event took place of which the enemy had notice about the second of August I had those sanguine hopes of success which I had expressed in my proclamation and in my

communications with the war office—But after that misfortune the scene was entirely changed—From that moment I saw that although it was possible that I might obtain temporary advantages yet that they would eventuate in the greatest disasters unless I was aided and supported from other quarters—

Thus Gentlemen I have endeavoured to shew you that I took the command under the expectation that in the event of a war the operations of my army would be assisted by a competent force upon the Lakes.—by detachments to keep clear the communication which I had opened through the wilderness—and by the co-operation, or at least such a demonstration of force against other parts of the enemy's territories, as would prevent his directing all his energies to the point where I might meet him—

But it unfortunately happend that none of these expectations were fulfilled—

The effects of these disappointments will afterwards be considered—

[The Court here adjourned. It met next morning at eleven o'clock and after some preliminaries General Hull proceeded with his defence as follows:]

I now assume my vindication of the measures, which form the most prominent features in my accusation;—

that is to say, *the delay at Sandwich; the retreat from thence; & the surrender at Detroit.*

It is necessary for me to explain the views & intentions I had, when I yielded to the importunities of my officers, & crossed to the Enemy's Country.

It must be recollected, that the order I received in the letter of the 18th of June, which announced the war, directed me to proceed to Detroit, & *there* to wait for further orders.

Finding that an impatience to cross, had been excited in the Army, which was likely to be extremely injurious to my authority, & the discipline of the troops, I called a Council of War, & laid before the officers, the orders by which I was then *bound;* & asked their *advice,* as to the expediency of crossing. The Council, notwithstanding my orders, were of opinion that I ought to cross. I did not feel myself at liberty to follow their advice, & determined not to do so.

But on the same day, I received the Secretary of War's letter of the 24th of June, in which he says; "Should the force under your command, be equal to the enterprize, consistent with safety of your own posts, you will take possession of Malden, & extend your conquests as circumstances may justify."

I did not think the force under my command equal to the conquest of Malden, nor did I think that, with such a *length* of *line of communication* as it was requisite for me to keep open, I ought to make the attempt. My letter to the Secretary at War, dated on this same 9th of July, which I have already quoted, expresses this opinion of the incompetency of my force, in *terms* not *to be misunderstood.* Yet, as soon as I had received this last mentioned

letter from the Secretary, I determined to take post in the Enemy's country—My reasons for this determination were, that I hoped thereby to satisfy the impatience of my officers, & preserve the confidence of my Army, which, expressions of discontent were likely to impair. I should command the streights, & thereby, prevent the Enemy from sending succors to their northern posts, or carrying on the important trade of their North Western Company. I knew that it would have a great effect upon the Indians, to shew them the American flag, flying on both shores; & I hoped, by establishing myself at Sandwich, to facilitate & increase the defection to the British Standard, which had manifested itself among the inhabitants & militia, & their Indians allies. My views, in taking post in the Enemy's Territory are expressed in my letters to the Secretary of War. In my letter of the 9th of July, I had, as I have above mentioned, told him I thought my force incompetent to attack Malden. In my letter of the 13th, written from Sandwich, I say, "I consider the possession of this bank as highly important; by erecting one, or two batteries opposite the batteries at Detroit, the River will be completely commanded. In the rear of the army on the *Detroit river, Lake St: Clair, & the River Le Trench,* is a populous & valuable part of the province. It is likewise probable, when the Indians see the American Standard on both sides the River, it will have a favourable effect."

I intended, nevertheless, without loss of time, to make preparations for putting in a state of service, my field artillery, for an attack on Malden; and, whenever that should be ready, & I should find that the Enemy's force was not likely to be further weakened by desertions, I

would make the attack, if I had a prospect of co-operations & support from below; without which I thought, & I *think* recent events will prove that I thought correctly, I could neither preserve my own posts on our side of the river, or that which the Enemy then possessed, if I should be so fortunate as to wrest it from him.

My officers, however, were not less importunate, for proceeding immediately against Malden, than they had been to cross the River. I felt myself compelled to yield to their importunity, & had appointed a day for the attack. But before that day arrived, I received intelligence that determined me to postpone the enterprize, & to recross to Detroit.

As preliminary to my vindication of these measures, it is important to consider what numerical force I could command, when I crossed into Canada, its nature, & the probable force & strength of the Enemy.

In every stage of this trial, I have felt, as a great misfortune, the want of that documentary evidence, which might be expected from me. This arises from the loss of the packet, which sailed from the Miami; & from the more recent loss of all my baggage, & most of my papers. When I left Detroit a prisoner, I left my baggage with my daughter, Mrs. Hickman, to be carried to my home, by her—She soon after embarked in the Enemy's Brig Adams, for Fort Erie. On her arrival there, she was permitted to go to Buffaloe, leaving her own & my baggage on board the Brig—The same night, the Brig was taken by Commodore Elliot, retaken by the Enemy & burnt, with all my baggage on board. This loss of my documents, has left the witnesses, who testified against me, to speak on many important points, from estimation

& conjecture; & they seem to have availed themselves of the liberty, so as always to make their estimates, such as would be most against me—I shall, myself, be obliged often to speak of numbers from conjecture, & estimate, but when I do so, I shall endeavour to present to the Court, the data on which my estimates were founded.

Major Jessup, the Brigade Major, says that we moved into Canada, with sixteen or eighteen hundred men—Now, neither the Michigan Legion, or the Michigan Militia crossed with the Army into Canada, and besides there were, as the Court will recollect, has been testified by several of the witnesses a portion of the Ohio Volunteers, who refused to cross—this number was about one hundred & eighty. Major Jessup further testifies, "That some time early in August, a few days previous to leaving Canada, he was called into a Council of War, to explain a report of Brigade, & that there were then eighteen hundred effective men, *in Canada, & at Detroit.* The Michigan Legion were included in the 1800, but the Michigan Militia were not."

Now, if there were but 1800 belonging to the Brigade at this time, including all that were either with me in Canada, or at Detroit, & including the Legion—how could sixteen or eighteen hundred have crossed with me. At the time that this report of Major Jessup's was made, we had lost but few of the troops that had crossed; & from the amount which he gives of the whole forces, at that time, to ascertain what was the number that crossed, must be deducted the Michigan Legion, & the Ohio Volunteers, that refused to pass the River—This will leave an amount much short of the sixteen or eighteen hundred, with which, Major Jessup says, we passed into Canada.

The Court will remember, that by a muster roll & return, made at Fort Findly, on the 26th of June, which has been exhibited by the Judge Advocate, the whole force which I then had under my command, amounted to 1,950. I was obliged to leave detachments at McArthur's block house, at Fort Findly, & at the Miami. There were about forty invalids taken in the vessel that sailed from the Miami. I left some sick at the River Raisin, & the whole force with which I arrived at Detroit, I am convinced, did not exceed fifteen hundred men—And I am confident, that the force with which I passed into Canada, did not exceed fourteen hundred—What proportion of the militia, which I had with me at Sandwich, would have been effective to lead against the Enemy, the Court may judge from general experience.

Major Van Horn has testified that, when detachments were ordered, it was always found, that not more than two thirds of the command ordered, could be marched. I do not believe that, at any time, I could have led thirteen hundred effective men against Malden; of these, there was only Col. Miller's Regiment of less than three hundred, that had seen any service. The rest were Militia, who, tho' they were very ardent & patriotic in their expressions, had had no experience, & neither men or officers had ever been tried. It is not extraordinary that I should have felt some want of confidence in these raw troops, for such a contest as we must have expected, before Malden, when it appears by the testimony of Col. Miller, that their own officers were not willing to be responsible for their firmness in an assault. Col. Miller states, that, in a Council in which the propriety of attacking Malden was discussed, at which Gen:

McArthur, Gen: Cass & Col. Findly were present—"Gen: Hull said, if we would answer for our men, he would lead us to Malden. I told him, I would answer for the men I commanded, but the others said, they would not be responsible for their men, but believed they would behave well."

I know, Sir, that it may be said that my proclamation to the Canadians, & my letters to the Secretary at War, hold a different language. That, in these, I speak with confidence of attacking Malden, & of the excellence & sufficiency of my force. And I presume the specifications refer to my proclamation & to these letters, when they alledge that I had declared & avowed my intention of attacking & subduing Malden. I cannot conceive that these declarations could prove me guilty, if my measures without them, would not *have been so*. I do not see that they can, in any way, be made the test of the propriety or impropriety of the course I pursued—It would be hard indeed, if every General were to be judged criminal, who did not accomplish *all* the intentions he may have avowed. This would be a rule, which, I presume, there are *many Generals* would not consent to establish—If it were adopted, no change of circumstances would justify the relinquishment of a design once formed.

I think, when it is considered under what circumstances my proclamation was published, it will not be thought just to adduce it as evidence against me, on this occasion. I was then in an Enemy's Country, the inhabitants of which were sufficient, independent of his regular force, which was established near me, & of his Indian Allies, to overwhelm the Army I commanded. I had no prospect of even maintaining myself, much less, of making con-

quests, unless I could induce a great portion of those inhabitants, to forsake his standard. It was incumbent on me to use all means to deprive him of aid from the Savage tribes—I knew that these two objects could only be effected, by representing myself as having the utmost confidence in the force I commanded, & that it was able to overcome all opposition. With these views I published the proclamation. And, indeed, the force I commanded, would have been equal to all I represented, had the same spirit of desertion & defection continued, which had manifested itself in the Enemy's Country, when we first invaded Canada.

But, unfortunately, before we retreated, all calculations, founded on this basis, had failed—

In my letters to the War Department, down to the latter end of July, I speak with confidence of attacking Malden whenever the field artillery shall be prepared. But I beg the Court to recollect, that this confidence was grounded upon the expectation that I then entertained, that the Enemy would be weakened by the desertion of his Militia, & the abandonment of the Indians. In all my letters which speak of the intended attack, I mention also the daily desertions from the Enemy's standard. That I did not rely on the competency of my own force, till the Enemy's should be reduced, must appear from my letter of the 9th of July, to which I have more than once referred.

About the first of August, we received the account of the fall of Michilimackinack—On the 4th I wrote a letter to the Secetary, from which the following are extracts—

"At the time the Army under my command, took possession of this part of the province of Upper Canada,

every thing appeared favorable, & all the operations of the Army have been successful. Circumstances have since occurred, which seem materially to change our future prospects. The unexpected surrender of Michilimackinack, & the tardy operations of the Army at Niagara, are the circumstances to which I allude. I have every reason to expect, in a very short time, a large body of savages from the North, whose operations will be directed against this army," &c.

After these observations, I do not believe that the Court will think, that it is to be justly inferred, either from my proclamation, or from my letters, that I considered my force, under any circumstances which existed before we left Canada competent to the reduction of Malden.

The force of the Enemy, Lt. Forbish states was, towards the last of July, about one hundred & seventy regulars, & five hundred & fifty militia. The Indian force could never be ascertained with any precision; it could not have been less than near a thousand. I always supposed the Enemy's force greater than this information makes it. But whatever may have been the force of the Enemy, it must have been estimated as very considerable by some of my officers, as well as by myself. The Court will recollect, that when I made the detachment under Colonel Van Horn to the River Raisin, and Colonels Cass & McArthur remonstrated with me, against the sufficiency of this force, they each proposed to go on that expedition with his Regiment. If the Enemy had not appeared to be somewhat formidable to them, they could never have advised me to make so large a detachment as six hundred men, on a service, in which they could only have expected

to meet a small part of his force. Colonel McArthur has afforded other evidence of his opinion of the power of the Enemy. For, when I proposed to leave him, with his Regiment, on the Canada shore, he charged me with having an intention to sacrifice him, by leaving him with such a force at that post, altho' he would have been in an intrenched Camp, with artillery, where he would also have had some protection from the guns at Detroit, & would be in reach of instant support from thence.

The Fort at Malden, I was well acquainted with. In time of peace I had often been in it. I knew that it was capable of being made a place of strength, and that, in contemplation of a war, the British for some time, had been using great exertions to put it in the best possible state of defence. I knew for near twenty years, a Field officer had commanded, & about an hundred regular troops had constantly been stationed in it, and that there always had been a regular corps of British Artillery, attached to the command. The question was, whether, with the troops I had under my command, so few of whom have ever been tried, I was to attempt to carry this fortress with the bayonet? For myself, particularly, when I considered what would have been the consequences of an unsuccessful attempt, I had a strong conviction that it would be wrong to make the effort, till we could have the advantage of heavy artillery. But, finding that many of my officers who had seen no service, were impatient at delay, & were destroying my influence with the army, & its discipline, by their complaints & censures; for *their* satisfaction, & not for my *own,* nor for my *own justification,* two days after I crossed, that is, on the 14th of July, I called a Council of War, in

which it was decided that no attempt ought to be made on Malden, without the heavy artillery. My utmost exertions were then used to get in readiness the two 24 pounders, & two howitzers, which were at Detroit. Carriages were to be made for them entirely new—Tho' a delay in these preparations, is one of the charges made against me, not a witness has attempted to support it. Indeed, Gentlemen, I dare appeal to every officer who was with me, and who is willing to speak the truth, whether I did not use all possible means, & make all personal exertion, to accomplish as speedily as possible, this desirable object. I several times crossed the River myself, to inspect & hasten the artificers. I ordered plank to be taken off my own house, to furnish a necessary part of the materials for the gun carriages. Captain Dalliba in his second examination, states, that he received an order to prepare the heavy artillery, after the army had crossed to Canada, he thinks it was on the 15th or 16th of July. My recollection is, that the order was given on the 14th, that is, the day after we crossed, & on the very day that the Council of War advised that the attack should not be made without the heavy cannon. From that time it is not pretended there was any delay in preparing them for service, and could not have been, without the fault of the officer who was trusted with the service. Till we crossed to Sandwich, the Artificers were employed, as appears by the testimony of the same witness, in mounting the guns of Fort Detroit. I beg the Court also to notice the testimony of Col. Miller on this point. He says he saw no want of exertion in preparing the artillery. The necessary field artillery was not prepared till the 7th of August. Two days previous to this I had called an-

other Council. The Members determined it would be adviseable to wait two days for the artillery, and if it was not then ready, the attack ought to be made without it. I did not concur in this opinion. Indeed, the opinion of the officers in this, & the former Council, appeared to me inconsistent. For, if, according to the decided opinion of the first Council, it was then improper to make the attack, without heavy ordnance, why was it not as necessary, when the last mentioned Council sat? And if it were proper to wait two days for the artillery, according to the opinion of the last Council, why was it not proper to wait longer? It may be said, that, between the first & second Council, the Enemy's force had diminished by desertion—No doubt it had as to numbers; great part of the militia had left them, & many of their Indian Allies—but the Fort of Malden retained all its strength, & there was no doubt but that their regular force, (of which not an individual had deserted) & their remaining militia, was sufficient to man it. Indeed, reinforcements had arrive from Fort George, both in the Brig Hunter, & one other vessel. At this Council I found that nothing would satisfy my officers or the Army, but a movement towards the Enemy. I felt myself obliged to yield to the advice of the Council, and did, as General Cass has testified, declare that I would lead the Army against Malden, as soon as the Artillery should be completed.

My opinion was that an attempt on Malden should never be made, until there was an absolute certainty of success. This opinion was founded, not only on considerations which I shall hereafter mention, but upon the orders I had received from the War Department in the

Secretary's letter of the 24th of June, which I have so often quoted, & by which I was directed not to attack Malden, unless I judged my force was equal to the enterprise, nor unless I could do it, consistently with the safety of my own posts. I thought by delay, I was every day strengthening the probability of success in the enterprize, because the force of the Enemy was daily diminishing, by the desertion of his militia & Indians.

But I thought myself bound to delay, till I had possessed myself of every possible means of ensuring success, from a consideration of what would be the consequences of a defeat.

The army would have been destroyed; if not by the tomahawk of the Indians; they must after a defeat, have perished for want of supplies.

A defeat would have been the signal for all the hords of savages in the surrounding wilderness, to fall upon the unsuccessful troops—Every path would have been filled with these remorseless warriors—But, it was not only the fate of the Army that I anticipated on such an event; the horrors that it would let loose, on the neighbouring Country, & throughout our extensive borders were presented to my mind. I knew that if the Army I commanded, were beaten in battle, there would be nothing to restrain the ravages of that part of our Enemy, which, when a battle is decided in their favor, makes the vanquished & their defenceless Country & people, their prey.

In the ungenerous letter, which Col. Cass wrote to the Government, (& which, as I think, was most unwarrantably published,) he seems to think, that these are philanthropic considerations, unworthy a soldier. But, Sir, tho' brought up in the field & tho' I have seen something

of the horrors of war, I am not yet such a *soldier,* as that I can think of such scenes with indifference.

When I considered what would be the condition of the territory over which I had so long presided, & over which I was then Governor, in case the force I commanded, should be beaten in battle, & the inhabitants be left to the mercy of the savages, without any stipulation or force, for their protection, I thought I should deserve the heaviest curses, if I risked a battle, before I had taken every means in my power, to insure victory.

These were the considerations that induced me to resist the urgency of my officers to move to the attack of Malden, till the eighth of August. It had been ascertained on the sixth, that the cannon would be done on the eighth—and on the sixth I issued an order for the Army to prepare to move to the attack on the eighth. Everything was in readiness for the enterprize, on the seventh. But, on that evening, I crossed, with the whole army, to Detroit—except a detachment of about three hundred men, under Major Denny, which was left intrenched at Sandwich, & which was also moved over on the eleventh.

This retreat from the Enemy's shore, is one of the acts of Treason, Cowardice, and Un-officerlike conduct, of which I am accused—I proceed to submit to your consideration, my answer to this accusation, and the reasons which then governed my conduct, & which I yet believe to have been correct.

About the first of August, as appears by a letter of the fourth, I received an account of the fall of Michilimackinack—Lieut: Hanks with his men, and some Indians, had arrived at my encampment. The effect of this great

misfortune was immediately seen & felt, in the vicinity of my post. The Wyandot Indians settled at Brownstown, who had previously shewn the most friendly dispositions & given the strongest assurances of their neutrality, joined the British. For, though they passed over under the pretence of having been made prisoners, the circumstances which then occurred, left no doubt but that they had formed an alliance with the Enemy.
This procedure of this tribe of Indians, was not only evidence of their own, but of the defection of the surrounding nations, who are all united by some sort of confederacy, in which the Wyandots have a superior influence that is acknowledged by the other tribes, speaking of them as their *Fathers*. When, therefore, I learned that this nation had joined the standard of the Enemy, I knew that the Chippeways, Ottaways, Pottawottamies, Munsees, Shawanees, Senekas, & other tribes, who, altogether, could furnish between two & three thousand Warriors, would also be an addition to his force.

At the same time, I received intelligence, as appears by another letter of mine to the Secretary at War of the same date, (4th of Augt) that a British officer, with fifty five regular soldiers, and two brass field pieces, had landed on the west part of Lake Ontario, had penetrated to the head waters of the River Le Trench, and was collecting the Militia & Indians in that quarter, to lead them against my Army. From the information I had received, I had reason to think, & so I mention in my letter to the Secretary, his force would amount to six or seven hundred. The fall of Michilimackinack also changed the disposition of the inhabitants of Canada, & from the time that accounts were received of that event, there were no more

of their militia came over to us. I had also been informed of the arrival of the British Col. Proctor, at Malden, & it was generally believed that he had brought with him, some reinforcements, as well naval as military. To the Enemy's naval force I had nothing to oppose. By it, the Enemy might command the Lake; obtain his supplies without the least interruption; transport his troops at his pleasure; and co-operate with land movements on the margin of the waters.

I had also intercepted a letter from a Mr. McKenzie at Fort William, to a Mr. McIntosh, at Sandwich, dated the 19th of July, from which the following are extracts.

"The declaration of War reached us on the 16th inst., but we are neither astonished, nor alarmed; our agents ordered a general muster, which amounted to 1200, exclusive of several hundred of the natives. We are now equal in all, to 1600 or 1700 strong—one of our Gentlemen started on the 17th with several light canoes, for the interior country, to rouse the natives to activity, which is not hard to do, on the present occasion. We likewise dispatched messengers in all directions with the news. I have not the least doubt but our force will, in ten days hence, amount to, at least, five thousand effective men. our young gentlemen & engagers, offered most handsomely to march immediately for Michilimackinac—our chief, Mr Shaw, expressed his gratitude, & drafted one hundred; they are to proceed this evening, for St. Joseph's—he takes about as many Indians—could the vessel contain them, he might have had four thousand more"—"It now depends on what accounts we receive frm St. Joseph's, whether these numerous tribes from the interior, will proceed to St. Joseph's or not."

At the time that this intercepted letter fell into my hands, I was informed by Lieutenant Hanks, that, before he left Michilimackinac, several agents of the Northwest Territory, had arrived at that post, after its surrender, from Fort William on the north side of Lake Superior; who stated that a large force of Canadians & Indians were collected at Fort William, ready to descend the Lakes, & that there was also a force of the same description, collected at the outlet of Lake Superior. I was further informed by Lieutenant Hanks, that immediately after the surrender of Michilimackinac, which was on the 18th of July, the British commander had sent an express to Little York, & it was supposed that, on the return of the express, all the forces which had been collected & were collecting in the northern regions, would be ordered to Malden. The death of Lieutenant Hanks deprives me of the benefit of his testimony. But this is sufficiently supplied by the evidence of Mr Stone and Doctor Day, Gentlemen who were at Michilimackinac; when it surrendered, & who accompanied Lieutenant Hanks to my head quarters at Sandwich;—and Doctor Day was present, when Lt Hanks made the communication to me—It may be said that this information ought not to have had any influence upon my conduct, because the northern Indians could not, and in fact, did not arrive in a great length of time.

I presume that no testimony is wanting to prove to this Court, that, from the points where they were collected, they might have descended in a few days. The Savages of our Country have an advantage of all other troops in the celerity & facility with which they make their movements. These, too, were to be added by the means

of the northwest Company, which were particularly adapted to transportation from the nature of their trade, upon the waters of the Lakes.

As to the fact that the northern Savages did not arrive at Malden until long after the surrender—The testimony of Captain Eastman is, that he remained at Detroit, 24 days after the capitulation—that the Sagganau Indians, with about sixty warriors arrived three days after the surrender, that the Michilimackinac Indians, with about eleven or twelve hundred warriors, arrived about the 10th or 11th of September.

It may be well to remark here, how formidable this force proved to be, altho' it was but a small portion of that which would have come had not Detroit been surrendered—But can it be concluded that this force would not have arrived earlier, had not intelligence of the fall of my Army reached them, which it must have done, a few days after the event happened—When information of so many adverse circumstances had reached me from various quarters, the fate of my Army appeared inevitable. I had but one of two courses to pursue, and either seemed to me almost a desperate alternative. I must either advance or retreat. If I had seen nothing that I was to regard, but the power of the Enemy, I had no doubt but that I ought to have adopted the former expedient—I was obliged to consider the effect a retreat would have in my own camp. The young and inexperienced officers I had under my command, who could see no danger that was not immediately before their eyes, who thought & said, that they were very brave, but, with a few exceptions, do not know it to this day, from any trials of their courage; who despised all precautions, &

thought all generalship consisted in inconsiderate & impetuous advances, I knew well, would pursue the conduct which they afterwards did—And by representing a retreat as proceeding from the most unworthy & unjustifiable motives, destroy the efficiency of the Army, by robbing me of its confidence. The Cabals, which had risen to such a height as to mature a plan of mutiny, in which my chief officers were to be the *ring* leaders, could not be entirely concealed from me; altho' till I saw the confession published to the world by one of the conspirators, I did not know the extent of their design.

Under these awful circumstances, dangerous as the attempt on Malden appeared to me to be, I thought it might be less so than a retreat. I determined to attack Malden, and on the sixth of August, issued orders to have every thing prepared for the movement of the army on the eighth. And, Gentlemen, there is no part of my conduct, since I have been a soldier, that I reflect upon, with so much self conviction of error, as I do upon this. I look back with regret upon the moment, when I yielded to the Councils of the inexperienced officers I commanded, and determined to make an attempt, which my own judgment did not approve, which was contrary to all military knowledge, and which, even success, might not justify—I thought, however, it was possible that, if I were successful, & could possess myself of the Enemy's fortress, I might possibly maintain myself there, for some short time, & in that time I hoped I might have some succor & security from my own Country, and her armies, that I had been led to expect would be operating below me.

On the seventh of August, everything was in readiness for the intended movement. But, on that day, at about

one o'clock, an express arrived with letters to me from the commanding officers on the Niagara frontier; two from Major General Hall, & one from General P. B. Porter. These letters were sent to me by express, to inform me that a large forces [sic] from the neighbourhood of Niagara were moving towards my Army. But, what was more decisive in its influence on my measures, was, that I learned from those letters, that I was not to expect that these movements of the Enemy were to be checked, or that my army would be sustained, by any operations against the Enemy in any quarter. I found that the invasion of Canada, and the whole war, was to be carried on by the 300 regular troops under Col. Miller and the 1200 or 1400 militia, which had been placed under my command.

I must here again beg leave to turn the attention of the Court Martial to the correspondence between the Secretary at War and myself, to remind the Court Martial of the reasons I had to expect supplies, assistance, & co-operation, when I took the command of the North Western Army—When I received these letters from Generals Hall & Porter, my situation became embarrassing, & distressing to a great degree. I had, but a few hours before, with what reluctance, appears from the testimony of General Cass, yielded to importunities of my officers, and given them expectations that I would lead the army against Malden. I had issued orders for making the necessary preparations, & fixed a time for the movement. I knew well, what would be the effect of disappointing the expectations which those measures had raised. But, as General McArthur has testified, I told him, as commander of that army, I felt myself *responsible*

for its *movements,* and its *fate.* Under an awful sense of that responsibility, I determined to re-cross the River with the greater part of the Army. In making this movement, I had no design of relinquishing the attack of Malden. My intention was to take post at Detroit, and there to wait until some naval force on the Lake, and a co-operation from below, which from the beginning I had relied upon, and which the letters I had received from Generals Hall and Porter, gave me reason to expect would commence at some future but probably distant period, afforded some hopes of success, & of advantage from success.

My further intention was to concentrate my forces at Detroit, that I might from thence open & secure my communication with the State of Ohio. Upon which, in my judgment the salvation of the Army depended.

This consideration had so much influence on my measures, not only at this time, but throughout the campaign, and in the final surrender, that it will be proper to present it to the Court, in such a view as that they may judge of its importance.

From Urbanna to the Miami of the Lake is a perfect wilderness. Through this *wilderness,* a distance of 120 miles, and through a Country of which the Indians were the inhabitants and proprietors, the Army had to cut a road when they advanced; and it was the only road by which supplies of any kind could be received. From the Miami to the settlements on the Detroit River, the Country is little better than a wilderness, there being only two or three little settlements—Along the Detroit River the Country is partially cleared & cultivated. The improvements extent from half a mile, to a mile back from

the River, and in part of these improvements, on the margin of the streights, is the road to the town of Detroit. The whole Country from Urbanna to the town of Detroit is filled with savages; all of whom [with] very unimportant exceptions, became hostile to us, and infested every part of the road, which was not protected by an armed force. From the Miami to Detroit, a distance of 72 miles, the road runs so near the waters of Lake Erie, and of the Streights, that the Enemy having the command of those waters, could with the greatest facility transport from their shore, & from one point to another, detachments to intercept the communication. Their vessels too, would always afford them a secure retreat in case of disaster. There were in the whole Michigan Territory, less than 5000 white inhabitants, about 2000 of whom were settled a long the Detroit River. The soil, tho' fertile, was but little cultivated; the inhabitants greatly relying for their support, upon the supplies of fish & venison, which the woods & waters afforded. The Territory has never furnished sufficient provisions for its own inhabitants. There are annually, as appears from the testimony before you, large quantities of pork & beef brought in from the State of Ohio, and, notwithstanding the testimony of some of the witnesses, I assert, that at the time the Army was in that quarter, they could not have taken the necessary supplies from the Country, for any length of time; without distressing the inhabitants. It has been proved that, even in time of peace, the few troops who were stationed at Detroit, were fed by supplies from Ohio. The Country must afford insufficient provisions for an army, or there could be no necessity for furnishing General Harrison from the western States at the immense

expence which his supplies have cost.—The testimony of General Mac-Arthur, affords some evidence of the State of the Country in respect to provisions.—He stated that from the morning of the 14th of August when he marched from Fort Detroit with a Detachment, till the 16th when they met with and killed an Ox—In a march of near 30 miles he saw nothing that was food for man except some unripe Corn and some honey. The opposite shores of the Enemy were not more productive in supplies.—The whole of the Country bordering on the streights and on the Lake is a wilderness except the settlement at Amherstburgh, and a very thin population on the banks of the Detroit River, and a small place on Lake Erie known by the name of the New Settlement.—Above on the river Trench at about the distance of Sixty miles is the most fruitful and valuable part of the Country.

Independent of these settlements, which had been exhausted by the two armies, the whole is wilderness—After the fall of Michilimacinac, when all the hives of Northern Indians became hostile and were let loose upon us, when the Northwest Company as appears by the Letter of Mr McKenzie, had arrayed against us their numerous Retainers, and when the navigation of the upper as well as of the lower lakes, was free to the Enemy, no supplies could have been obtained from the River Trench or the bordering Country.

It must be remarked that from the time the Army arrived at Detroit; not one pound of provisions had been received from the moment the declaration of war was known to the Enemy, he had intercepted the only line of Communication, and thus cut off all supplies.

It appears from a return made on the day the army

arrived at Detroit, and which is mentioned in the minutes of a Council of war held on the 9th that there were then in store,—

125,000 Rations of Flour, &
70,666 Rations of Meat.

This Stock, as it was never replenished, must have been proportionably exhausted at the time of the Retreat from Canada, and at the time of the final Surrender, and indeed would have been entirely so, had we not drawn as far as we could our supplies from the Country which every day became the more stripped, and the less able to afford them.—

A return made to me by the Contractor on the 25th of July, shews not only the quantity of provisions on hand at that date, but it shews by a Comparison with a Return of the 9th of the same month, the rate at which the provisions were consumed.

This return has been proved and read in evidence; it is as follows: "Provisions on hand at Fort Detroit, 25 July 1812.

70,000 rations Flour
21,000 rations Salted meat
100,000 rations Whiskey.—

It has been said by Generals Cass and McArthur and by other witnesses that they never heard complaints of a want of provisions

This is certainly true.—There was not previously to the surrender an actual want or deficiency of provisions. —Our Stores were not then entirely exhausted; but there was a certainty that they would soon be so.

Such then was my situation when I determined to retreat from Canada. I had above me herds of hostile

Savages: I had below an Enemy in a fortress which I believed to be a work of strength, and sufficiently manned for its defence.

I found that he had been left at liberty to augment his force by drawing his troops from all other points.—I commanded an army the Troops of which (except a few Regulars of the 4th Regiment) had no experience and had never been tried, and this army was officered by men the chief of whom, had not hesitated to express in the most indecent terms, his want of confidence in me.—I was told that I must not expect any Co-operation or assistance; I saw that my provisions would bee [sic] soon exhausted, and that neither my own, nor the Enemys Country would afford supplies for any length of time:—I saw that my only communication was cut off, and unless it were opened, the army would be subdued by want.—

Under these circumstances, I determined to recross the river, take the principal part of the army, not with an intent as I have said, to relinquish the enterprize against Malden and the Upper Province, but to wait for a Co-operation & assistance which might afford more favorable prospects and in the mean time, which I considered a duty of the first importance, to open the only communication by which I could obtain supplies.—An attack on Malden was an alternative, which as I have said presented itself to my mind; It was one which I had the most powerful inducements to adopt.—I well knew what rewards of honor and Glory awaited an achievement, which my Country had been led to expect with so much certainty and anxiety:—I knew what were the expectations of my officers, and what resentment a disappointment would create: I knew a retrogade movement would

expose me to censure, and to the malice of my Enemies. But in deliberating on this alternative, I could not but take into view the possibility of a defeat in the attempt, and the consequences which as I have before mentioned, would result, not only to the Army, but to the people of the Territory.—A more decisive consideration however induced me to reject this alternative.—I then felt confident, and I do now feel most confident that if I had attacked Malden and had been successful, it would have been but a useless waste of blood.—It would have been utterly impossible to have maintained the Fortress.—It must have fallen for want of supplies.—It must be remembered that the waters of the Lakes were shut against us. There could have been no possible communication with the Fortress, but by the road which I had cut through the wilderness: How was that road to be kept open?

Most probably after an engagement, or after carrying the works by Storm, I could have taken into Malden but a few hundred men.—

Could I have made sufficient detachments from the Garrison to have performed this service?—Let it be remembered that Generals McArthur and Cass, censured me for sending so small a detachment as two hundred men in this duty, and thought the force ought to have been double, or equal to one of their Regiments. And when Colonel Miller with 600 men, 280 of whom were almost the whole of the regular force under my command; had defeated the enemy near Maguago, he thought it necessary to send to me for a reinforcement of 150 or 200 men, to enable him to secure his passage to and from the river Raisin, tho' his loss in the battle did not

exceed eighty, and tho' he knew at the River Raisin he was to be joined by the Detachments under Captain Brush, and the Companies under Captains Campbell and Rowland.—If the road could have been opened, still no supplies could have passed into the Fort without crossing the water, and on that the British had a force, to which we had nothing to oppose.—If we had possessed the Fort, it would have been pressed by the North-West Company, and its Retainers from the north, with all the hosts of savages of those regions.—A British force no doubt would have approached it from Lake Ontario by the River La Trench: on the water it would have been attacked by the Naval Force, and all this it must have encountered with the possibility of obtaining supplies, and without the least prospect of relief or assistance.

My Judgment Mr President, may mislead me now, as it did then, but yet I think, that if I had led the army I commanded to the Conquest of Malden under such circumstances as I have stated, it would have been as great a crime as any one of which I am accused.—

Certain I am that I should have wanted that consciousness of having acted from the purest motives, and according to my best Judgment, which has been my only consolation in all I have suffered.—

If it be true as I have stated, and as I think the testimony proves that my Army had not provisions for any length of time, and that neither my own nor the Enemies Country would have been capable of furnishing them, I need hardly state to the members of this Tribunal, how important it was to me to keep open the road I had made th[r]ough the wilderness, the only communication by which supplies could approach me.—

In modern warfare the first great object of each contending party, is the resources of his enemy.

The fate of armies is found to depend upon the abundance of their resources, on their security, and in the facility of keeping up a communication with them.

It has become a principle to manoevre in such a manner as to cover the places from whence supplies may be drawn; not to go far from them but with great Caution, and never to cease preserving with them those connections in which the strength of an army consists and on which its strength depends.—These are the sentiments of a modern military writer of great celebrity.—The experience of all military movements in latter times prove their correctness.—I always felt the force of them. It was a great violation of these principles, and therefore, as I considered, a great mistake, to march the Army I commanded after the war had commenced, to Detroit, leaving a British Garrison eighteen miles in our Rear, directly upon our Line of communication, which from its proximity to the Lake, and his force upon the water, the Enemy had the means of intercepting with peculiar facility.—But the orders I received in the Letter of the Secretary of war which announced to me the declaration of war, were positive upon this point.—They left me no discretion.—I was to march to Detroit, and there to wait for further orders.—

I had seen the necessity of keeping open the communication when I was on the march, and therefore I built and garrisoned Block-Houses on the road.—

When in the Enemy's Country I felt every day more strongly the force of this necessity, and therefore detached Major Van Horne on that Service.

Whether that was a proper detachment, as it [is] made a separate charge, will be a subject of Separate consideration, in a subsequent part of my defence.—

After the defeat of Major Van Horne, and when I found the situation of my army, immediately before I left Sandwich, such as I have before described, I was perfectly convinced, that no Success, not even the capture of Malden, could save it from eventual destruction if my communication with Ohio was not opened.—

The Court will recollect that General McArthur, and General Cass have stated in their testimony, that when they objected to the sufficiency of the force I detached under Major Van Horn, they each recommended that I should send him with his Regiment on that duty.—This shews what force in their estimation was necessary for the purpose.—What force Colonel Miller thought necessary I have already stated.—If these gentlemen were correct on this point, my army could not be in a proper situation, when I must have stretched back with nearly half, and the most efficient part of my command to insure me supplies.—It must be recollected also that it was not a Temporary detachment that would have answered any purpose.—I must have kept always separated from the army a sufficient force to have kept open the road from Detroit to Ohio, a distance of about two hundred miles.—I do not believe that after the fall of Michilimacinac, when the Savages became arrayed against us, and infested every part of the road, that my whole force would have been sufficient to have protected so extensive a line.—

These Gentlemen, were the grounds on which I made a retrogade movement with a part of the army to De-

troit.—It was from thence to open the only channel through which it could derive the means of its existence. —I repeat, my Judgment may have misled me: if it did, it continues yet to misle[a]d me; for every day that I have lived I have become more confident that I did right to leave the Enemy's Country.—Had I followed the dictates of my own Judgment I should have made my retreat to the Miami, and there waited for Co-operation and assistance.—

The distance from thence to the Ohio would have been comparatively short and I should have had no Enemy in my rear, but scattering Savages and he could not then have availed himself of the great advantage he derived from the command of the waters.—For the reason that I did not do so, let me appeal to the testimony of the two officers next in command.—

When I proposed this measure to Colonel Cass, his answer was, that if I did under the then existing circumstances, every man of the Ohio volunteers would leave me.—His language was in substance as he states it himself that the volunteers would retreat with me, if they thought a retreat necessary. But as they undertook to judge that it was not then necessary, they would leave me, and not a man would retreat under my command.— Colonel Cass's testimony on this subject is in the following words "I recollect a conversation with General Hull, after the retreat from Canada, and, before we went to the River Raisin, in which General Hull suggested, that as he heard of no Co-operation from below, it might be necessary to take post at the Miami.—I think I told General Hull that if, under existing circumstances, he took such a step, the Ohio Militia would desert him to a

man.—Whether I told General Hull so or not, I am confident it would have been the case.''—It may be well to remark, that this testimony of Colonel Cass's is evidence of the insubordination that was among the Troops: By whom, and by what means it had been encouraged, the Court may judge.—

Upon this part of the subject, that is to say the retreat from Canada, I have but a few more words to say:—I retreated for the purpose of being enabled to take effective measures for opening my communication.—The importance of acomplishing this design I have endeavored to shew. But it seems that the government or whoever it may have been that drew the charges that are now before you, were also sensible of this importance: For one of the accusations that I am to answer is, that I did not keep open this Communication, and yet the measure I took to accomplish this object, and which was the only measure that afforded any prospect of success, that is to say, withdrawing the army from Canada, is also made the ground of crimination.

I beg the Court to notice that these reasons for the retreat, are such as I assigned for it at the time as well as now. For the evidence of this I refer to my Letters to the Secretary at War of the 4th and 8th of August.—My letter to Governor Scott of the 9th of August, & my letters to Governor Meigs and Colonel Wells of the 11th of August.—All these shew that I abandoned Canada, because I had ascertained that I would soon be surrounded by an overwhelming force: Because my communication if I remained where I was, would inevitably be cut off; and because I found that the few Regulars and Militia I commanded, was to be left to carry on without

any assistance or Co-operation the offensive war, which the United States had declared against one of the most powerful Nations on Earth.—

The surrender of the Fortress of Detroit, and of the forces in the Michigan Territory under my command, is another charge against which I am now to defend myself.—I beg the court to observe, that the course I am pursuing is to examine in the first instance, the propriety or necessity of these principal measures. The circumstances attending their accomplishment, being ground of distinct accusation, I propose to give them distinct consideration.

As to the point on which I am now about to make my defence, I must beg the Court to bear in mind what I have said in relation to the delay in attacking Malden, and to recrossing the river:. Much of what I have said upon these subjects will be applicable to the charge now under consideration.—The same facts are re-iterated in the specifications in so many different forms, that it is difficult to analise them, and might excuse repetition. But I shall endeavor as much as possible to avoid trespassing on the patience of the Court, and shall not repeat, what I have already said, further than may be absolutely necessary, to make myself clearly understood.—

The extent and state of the force under my command, at the time of the attack on the 15th & 16th of August, must be ascertained before my conduct can be duly appreciated.—

The detachments under Colonels McArthur and Cass, consisting of 400 of the most effective men of their Regiments, were absent on the expedition to the River Raisin.—

On the morning of the 16th the Brigade Major Jessup, as appears by his cross examination had by my order made a report of the effective men under my command: He stated the number as appears by a document before you, in the three Ohio Regiments to be 700, including the Michigan Legion and waggoners, but not the Michigan Militia.—The armed inhabitants which some of the witnesses have mentioned, I presume were not intended to be included, and indeed should not have been.—For altho' it may have been agreeable to the disposition of some who have testified in this cause to mention them here that they might swell my numbers in the eyes of the Court, yet I believe it will not be thought that I ought to have taken them into calculation, in estimating my means of defence.—In the field they were only likely to be the first to set an example of disorder, and in a siege they would only have increased the Consumption of provisions.—

Major Jessup says, that on the 15th he received an estimate from one of the Adjutants of the number of men fit for duty.—He thinks it exceeded one thousand.—This estimate was not delivered to me but was given to General Cass the day after the battle, but for what purpose does not appear.—I wish General Cass had produced it on this occasion.—

Of the 1000, if there were so many effective only 320 were regulars, that being Major Snellings estimate of the effective force of the fourth Regiment, on the day of the surrender.

The rest of this 1000, were comprized of the Ohio volunteers and Michigan Militia.—In my Letters to the Government, and my official account of the unfortunate

termination of the expedition under my command, I have always spoken of the Zeal & bravery of these Troops in terms of respect,—and I still think they merited all I have said of them in these respects; yet in estimating their probable services in an arduous conflict, I could not but consider their real character. My experience in the Revolutionary war had fixed in my mind a distrust of the services of undisciplined militia, however ardent and valorous they might by language and even by actions when not before the Enemy make themselves appear. Indeed the organization of the Militia Corps I had with me was particularly calculated to create distrust with respect to them.

All their officers held their Commissions in virtue of an Election mediate or immediate of the men of whom they were the nominal Commanders.

My second in Command, Colonel McArthur has prefaced his testimony by telling you that at such a time he was elected Colonel.—Colonel Van Horn was elected Major.—Mr McCormick was elected a Lieutenant.—From what stations what occupations these gentlemen were elected to high Military rank I do not know.—It would seem however that notwithstanding all the experience they have had in the field, they have not yet learned military language; or forgotten what were probably the phrases of their former occupations.

General MacArthur in describing the disposition he intended to make of his Regiment in case of an attack, spoke as he would of the gate of a Cow-pen, of swinging it into the rear line of a hollow square:—And most of the witnesses against me have spoken of the balance of a detachment, as they would of the foot of an account, in

a Shop Book.—Elected officers can never be calculated upon as great disciplinarians. In every station the elected will be unwilling to incur the displeasure of the electors: Indeed he will often be found to court their favour by a familiarity and condescension, which are totally incompatible with military discipline.—The man that votes his officer his Commission, instead of being implicitly obedient, as every soldier ought to be, will be disposed to question and consider the propriety of the officer's conduct before he acts.—This system has not only an injurious effect upon the soldiers, but it has a retro-active effect upon the officers.—They knowing how far they are responsible to their Electors, and what deference is due from them to a majority of votes, are under the influence of their own feelings in intercourse with their superiors.—

The Court must have observed with what confidence the officers who have testified against me have pronounced every thing to have been done wrong, that was not done according to their advice.—They seem to have thought, that when a Council of War was called, it was to be governed by the Laws of a Town meeting; and that a General was absolutely bound by the voice of a majority.—The testimony of Major Van Horn is a remarkable elucidation of the Ideas of some of my officers in this respect. He seems to think that I was guilty of great violation of duty in not being careful to ascertain accurately the votes of the members then present: Tho' as it turned out I had omitted to take the vote of a gentleman whose opinions coincided with my own.

Mr President, my ideas of a Council of War, are that it is called to advise the responsible officer, as to any

question which he may think proper to submit to its members: that he ought to hear and weigh with what deliberation Circumstances will admit, their Sentiments and opinions.—But that after all he is bound to act according to the dictates of his own judgment, be the opinions of his officers what they may. And inasmuch, as the advice of a Council will not in all cases justify misconduct, I hope it will not be considered that a measure, although it should have been wrong, or turned out unfortunate must be condemned because it was not sanctioned by a majority of votes.—These are considerations which I think it necessary to impress strongly upon the minds of the Court.—It unfortunately happened that on most questions which I submitted to the deliberation of my officers, their opinions and mine did not coincide; and many of the witnesses *seem* to think that therefore they must be condemned.—But such a principle will not I hope be adopted by this Court.—The decisions of the Councils should have had the less influence because it must be recollected that I could not with the exception only of the officers of the fourth Regiment call for the advice of any one, who had seen the least service, or had the least experience:—For though most of the witnesses who have been produced on the part of the Government have appeared with the titles and badges of high military rank, yet it is certain that most of these Gentlemen, when they joined my army, knew no more of the duties of a Soldier than was to be learned from Militia musters and parades about their own homes. What services they may have since performed to entitle them to the honors they have attained I am ignorant; and only hope, that their elevated rank (as it ought to be presumed it was not intended it

should) will not give them any other weight than they would have had if they had remained in their former subordinate stations, until they had given their testimony against me.—These observations are made in reference to the principal part of the Troops I had under my command, and to shew that, altho' as men they might be brave and patriotic, as I have always believed they were, and as I have always spoken both of the officers and Soldiers, yet from the manner of their organization, and from their want of discipline & experience, they were not that kind of force upon which a Commander could feel in an arduous conflict the firmest reliance.—So far as we had any opportunity of judging from trial this want of confidence in forces of this description was justified. The expedition under Major Van Horne was the only instance in which the volunteers acted by themselves in any affair of consequence; for the rencontre at the Aux-Canard Bridge (altho' both the officers and men behaved well) was but a skirmish which could hardly be a test either of courage or discipline. The detachment under Major Van Horn as he has testified, were not surprized. —He had fully prepared them according to his statement to expect their foe; and yet his party was disordered by the first fire of the Enemy:—Notwithstanding all the gallant exertions which as he has stated, he made, he was unable to rally them, or to prevent their flying in confusion, in the very first moments of attack, by nothing but Savages.—

In submitting to your consideration Gentlemen the state of the forces under my command, I must not omit, painful as it is to me to advert to it, the unhappy terms in which I was with my officers. They took no pains to

conceal what they have here testified to, that they had lost all confidence in me, many of them manifested it as appears from their own testimony, by the most indecent conduct and expressions.—The Court must recollect the language which I forbear to repeat, that my second in command, Colonel McArthur (now *Brigadier General McArthur*) represents that he addressed to me, when I proposed to him to remain with his Regiment at Sandwich.—

Let it be remembered too that the Brigadier General has stated, that when we were in the face of the Enemy, and he might hourly have expected to be called to battle he used this language with an expectation that he would be arrested: with an expectation that at such a moment he would be put in a situation that he could not be called upon to use his sword.—Brigadier General McArthur has said that these expressions were extorted from him by insinuations of cowardice.

I meant no such insinuation.—His declaration that he felt his single self able to carry the Fortress at Sandwich against any Garrison left no room to doubt *his* own good opinion of *his* prowess.—When General McArthur addressed such language to me I had never seen any thing that would have warranted such an insinuation as he conceives I made.—But if any thing would justify an impeachment of that officers Courage, it would be such conduct at such a time.—It may be thought that I ought to have arrested General McArthur.

It is not one of the charges against me that I did not, and therefore I shall not digress further from the course of my defence than to say the peculiarity of my situation, alone prevented my doing it.—If I had taken such

a step, I have no doubt his men who had elected him a Colonel, would have turned their arms against me, with as much alacrity as they *professed* to use them against the Enemy.—I might, and I believe I should have had a Civil War in my Camp. But to shew what was the disposition of my officers towards me, I have only to refer the Court once more to Colonel Cass's (*now Brigadier General Cass's*) Letter to Government, of the 10th of September in which he states that he, and others had formed a Conspiracy to wrest the command from me:— Whether this was or was not a treasonable design, is not for me to determine.—But what confidence could I place in officers whose conduct had been such as they themselves have described.—

I know Mr President, that my Letters to the Secretary at war, and my official account of the surrender may be appealed to on this subject.

I wish they may be. What I have written of the volunteers and their officers, is just, and what I yet say they were brave, zealous men.—It is my pride that in the very hour of misfortune, I had the magnanimity to give them all the credit that was due to them, and to take upon myself the whole responsibility of a measure which I knew would be the subject of so much censure.—

Would Sir that I could have observed a little of the same Spirit in my Accusers!—that they had been willing to take some share of the blame that is justly due to them! And that they had not in the triumph of their own elevation on my depression represented with the most uncharitable bitterness, a man whose smiles they once courted.—

I must be pardoned, Mr President, for yielding to my

feelings in these digressions.—I have stated to you the numbers, nature, and situation of the force which I had to oppose to the Enemy.

I shall now state what force he brought or might bring against me.—I say Gentlemen *might bring,* because it was that consideration which induced the Surrender, and not the force which was actually landed on the American Shore on the morning of the 16th—It is possible that I might have met and repelled that force, and if I had had no further to look than to the event of a contest at that time, I should have trusted to the issue of a battle.—I beg leave first to examine what was the extent of the Enemy's force, landed at Spring Wells on the morning of the 16th.—

Major Snelling who says he made some attempt to count the Enemies force, supposes that there were no more than 750 whites of whom, one third were regulars and the rest militia and volunteers.—The number of Indians he could not ascertain.—As he was going to his lodgings after having satisfied himself about the white force, he saw he says some hundred and fifty Indians in array.—He does admit however that there were some more, on the back of the Town, killing horses and stealing Cattle:—But it is very evident that Major Snelling as well as other witnesses, meant to convey to the Court an impression that they considered the Indian force very insignificant, both as to numbers and effect. and yet it is very extraordinary that when my Conduct would be censurable in proportion as the Indian force in the power of the British might be considered numerous and effective, their numbers and powers are augmented, I am charged with having sent out too small a detachment

under Major Van Horne.—To prove that I did so, the Major has testified that according to the information he received there were three hundred Indians crossed from the British side, the day his party was routed.—It is necessary to heighten my criminality, that in one instance the British Indian force should appear to be very small, and very insignificant, and in the other very numerous and very formidable.—It is well known however that all the Savages in that quarter had immediately after the fall of Michilimacinac, joined the British. I had had in council between the 14th and 20th of July the Chiefs of Nine Nations, whose warriors amounted to between two and three thousand, or more.—Is it not extremely improbable, that with a large force of this nature at their disposal, the British should have employed but a small part of it in their Enterprize against Detroit? Is it not rather to be presumed that in an undertaking in which they must have been very ambitious of success, they should have employed all their disposable force, whether white or red?

The force brought against me I am very confident was not less than, one thousand whites, and at least as many Savage Warriors.—

But it was not only against this force, on our own shores I was to defend myself.—

Their Batteries from Sandwich were effectually Cooperating with them, and their Ships of war were ready to lend them assistance in the moment of attack, to cover their retreat, and to afford them Shelter in case of defeat.—

If the British landed at Spring wells were not much more numerous than my own troops, I knew they must

have a powerful force in reserve, which they could bring to operate upon me, either by crossing them above the Town of Detroit or by transporting them in their Ships to that point, and thus attack the Fort on all sides, and place my army between their fire.—I should not however have yielded to all these considerations, had the war I was carrying on, been only against civilized men.—In that case, those only who were in the contest would have suffered.—But I knew how sanguinary and remorseless the Savages would be, should my army be subdued, and the Fortress be obliged to yield.—The whole Country would have been deluged with the blood of its Inhabitants; neither women nor children would have been spared.—The large detachment which was out under the command of Colonels McArthur & Cass, of which I could get no intelligence and the Detachment under Captain Brush at the River Raisin, would most probably have been the victims of Savage fury, which is always excited by battle, and rendered more sanguinary by victory.

These appeared to me the certain and dreadful consequences of unsuccessful resistance.—

If after a conflict, I should have been able for that time to have repulsed the Enemy, I might have purchased fame, and have avoided all I have suffered and what I now suffer, in being obliged thus at my time of Life to vindicate my honor, and plead my cause before you.—But at what price should I have done this? How many of the lives of the brave men I commanded would it have cost? How many of the persons who now appear to witness against me, might I not have sacrificed?—It might indeed Mr President, have given me an honorable Grave, and if mine were the only Life, concerned, I

wish it had been so, rather than that the foul crimes of which I am accused, should be coupled with a name to which my Country of late, as well as heretofore, has acknowledged some obligations.—

But I had rather even that this should be, I rather stand before you accused as I am, than have uselessly and wantonly sacrificed a single Life, though it should have ensured me immortal fame.—

If the attack of the Enemy had been repelled, our triumph would have been but Temporary.—My numbers must have been diminished by loss in Battle.—They would have daily lessened by the Cannon of the Enemy from the opposite shore.—The force of the Enemy augmented as it was by reinforcements under Colonel Proctor, Major Chambers, and the Commander in Chief General Brock, would have been daily augmenting.

The force from Michilimacinac and St Joseph's which would have amounted to several thousand savage warriors: the Savages with the addition of some hundred white men mentioned in the intercepted Letter of Mr McKenzie, collected at Fort William, would in a few days have descended upon us: The Canadian Militia had all returned to their allegiance:—The Enemy's Naval force, and means of Transportation on the Lakes were augmented: there was no Co-operation with my army from any quarter:—The Letters I had received from Generals Hall and Porter had not only satisfied me that my Expectations in this respect were disappointed, but that no diversion in my favor was soon to be expected:—My army was in a corner, surrounded by a wilderness of waters and a wilderness of woods:—All communciation with my Country, either by land or water cut off. My

stores of provision and ammunition but sufficient for a short duration: add to all this that at the moment of expected conflict I received information that a part of my own troops had gone over to the enemy, and that a larger body were about to join him.—Under such a combination and pressure of adverse circumstances, the army must have yielded in a little time notwithstanding any temporary Success.—I did not think I should be justifiable or even excusable if I risked a battle when victory could purchase no real good. And when the consequence of defeat or even the consequences of being driven into the Fort would be to submit the whole Country which I was sent to protect, and that part of my force which was on detachment to the "ruthless ferocity of Savages, armed with the horrors of those instruments of carnage and torture, which are known to spare neither age or Sex."

From such a Calamity I knew a Capitulation would be a protection.—The British if made masters of the Country without a battle would be able to restrain their merciless allies, which they could not do after a Contest, even if it should be only so far successful as to oblige us to retreat into the Fort. A Savage will have blood for blood, though he draws it from the veins of the defenceless. Victory only heightens his inhuman thirst.—

I offered a Capitulation and surrendered.

"I well knew the high responsibility of the measure, and take the whole of it upon myself. It was dictated by a sense of duty, and a full conviction of its expediency. —If ought has taken place during the Campaign, which is honorable to the army, my officers are entitled to a

large share of it.—If the last act should be disapproved, no part of the censure belongs to them."

These Sir, are the words of my official communication of this unhappy event, to the Secretary at war. I repeat them, it was Sir, a Sense of duty which drove me to the measure.

It was a sense of what I owed to the protection of the Inhabitants of the Territory I had so long governed.—I felt myself bound to Sacrifice every private feeling, and in spite of themselves to save from useless waste the blood of the brave men I commanded. Nor Sir will I conceal that in the midst of the carnage that might ensue a battle, my parental feelings saw a daughter and her offspring who were with me in the Fort, bleeding under the Tomahawk of a Savage!—

If these be considerations unworthy of a Soldier, then I am without excuse.—then indeed you may pronounce your utmost doom.

But do not let me transmit to my posterity a name tarnished by the foul crimes imputed to me.—

I say I am as free from the sins of that black Catalogue, as any man who hears me.—But if a propitiation be necessary, and it must be the remnant of the life of a man, whose Country has heretofore acknowledged his claims to her gratitude and who has not ceased to deserve it, Here is one that I offer:—I would freely part with it, if you will not take from me and from my Family and posterity my honour and character

It appears that the view which my officers had of our situation, at about the time of the retreat and Surrender, was very different from what it would appear to have

been from the Testimony they have given before you.—At least this observation applies to General Cass.—

The testimony of Mr Silliman, (the Generals Brother in Law) of Mr Mills, and of Mr Converse his neighbor, proves that in Letters written by him at the times to which his Testimony relates, he had different sentiments from those he has here expressed.—In a Letter of the third of August at which time we were in possession of the Enemy's Territory and all the resources that might be drawn from thence, General Cass tells Mr Silliman, that provisions would become necessary for the existence of the Troops.—In a Letter to Mr Silliman after the fall of Michilimacinac General Cass says, that the impression made by the fall of Michilimacinac, could scarcely be conceived.—In the same or some other Letter according to the Testimony of Mr Silliman General Cass pressed him to use his influence to procure reinforcements for the army, and expresses his surprize that we were left without Co-operation by putting to his Correspondent the following interrogation. "Is there nothing to be done in the Lower end of the Lakes to make a diversion in our favor?" In a Letter from General Cass to the same gentleman dated on the 12th of August, General Cass says, "think our Situation as bad as you may, it is still worse."—

It is most unfortunate for me that I have in the course of this prosecution so often to feel the want of documents. —I want to prove the contents of a memorial which was filed on record in the War Department:—I ask for the Record and it is lost.—I am impeached for not having regularly issued orders to the Army. The witnesses who are to support this charge, prove that there were orderly

Books in which my orders were entered; but they have either been lost or what is more extraordinary, left at home.—Captain McCormick has an orderly book, but when he was called here as a witness, he left his book behind him.—Other officers seem very unaccountably to have thought the order to ship their baggage at the Miami included their orderly books, and they have been lost by that means: And now these Letters from General Cass to Mr Silliman, the contents of which it might be so important to me to contrast with the Generals Testimony, it appears were entrusted to the Generals Wife, and they too have been lost.—

But I ask the Court, does not even the slender accounts which we have had of the contents of these Letters, shew that General Cass, at the time they were written, did believe that the Army would be in want of provisions? that Reinforcements were necessary? that the fall of Mackina [sic] was to have a decisive operation on the fate of the Army? that our hopes rested on Co-operations from below, and that the situation of the Army was critical in the extreme?—If these were General Cass's sentiments when he wrote the Letters, I must leave it to the Court to reconcile them to the Testimony he has given.—

[The Court adjourned until the following morning at 11 o'clock at which time General Hull continued with his defence as follows:]

I now appeal with some confidence, to this tribunal for

their decision upon the accusations which I have hitherto considered.

Were either of the acts, to which the attention of the Court has been directed, in themselves, and abstractedly considered, unjustifiable or rather, and this is the true question, was either of them so manifestly wrong, so egregiously erroneous, that it is, of itself, evidence of treason, cowardice, or un-officer like conduct? Are there not so many reasons for my conduct, in regard to these transactions, that I may be supposed to have acted honestly, tho' it should now appear to the Court that it was erroneously.

If an act may have proceeded from pure intentions, it would be the height of injustice, & misanthropy, to impute it to bad motives.

I shall now proceed to make my defence against the other accusations. I shall endeavour to arrange them in the order of time, in which the facts, by the specifications are supposed to have occurred.

Hitherto, Mr President, my defence has chiefly rested on documentary evidence, or upon facts of general notoriety. As to all that follows, the charges depend entirely upon parole testimony.

It seems extraordinary that there has not been a witness examined, on the part of the prosecution, who has not been promoted since he was under my command.

A great majority of the young Gentlemen who have been called by the Judge Advocate, had appeared decorated with their two epaulets; these have been bestowed, and sometimes with the augmentation of a star, upon Gentlemen who began their military career with my unfortunate Campaign.

By what services many of these Gentlemen have merited such rapid promotion, I have not learned: But if it all arises out of their achievements, while under my command, I must say, that it appears to me, that my expedition was more prolific of promotion, than any other unsuccessful military enterprize I ever heard of.

It cannot be that it has been intended, to give a weight to the testimony of those witnesses, by giving them ranks and honors, which it would not otherwise have had. But, Sir, when my military character and measures, are to be tested by the opinions of Gentlemen, with high sounding titles of military rank, I think it necessary to remind the Court, that, with the exception of a few of the younger officers, there are none of them who have not been promoted to their high stations, without having had any military experience, and without, so far as I have heard, ever having discovered any military talents or genius.

If the opinions of witnesses on military conduct, ought in any case to be listened to (which, I conceive, ought not to be,) yet, I think the opinions of men of these descriptions, ought to be received with the greatest caution.

The extraordinary promotions, which the witnesses against me, have generally attained, I think may be accounted for, by a recurrence to the fact, of which this trial has afforded the most conclusive evidence; which is, that each of the witnesses, from the Generals to the youngest and lowest officer, that has been called by the Judge Advocate, is himself, in his own opinion at least, a *Hero*.

From General McArthur, who thought himself capable of fighting a whole garrison, down to the lowest rank,

every officer seems to have thought that if he had been the commanding General, or if I had taken his advice, all would have gone well. No doubt they have, in justice [to] themselves, made these representations to the Government. And their ranks must be considered as a reward for the great things, which they said they would have done, rather than to have been acquired by any actual services.

But, Gentlemen, before I proceed to examine the parole testimony, let me call your atention to another subject connected with it; I mean the indefatigable pains which have been taken, to propagate and keep alive, the most hateful prejudices against me. Sir, I believe there never was a greater outrage committed on the administration of justice, and towards an individual, than was the publication of Colonel Cass' (now *Brigadier General Cass,*) letter to the Government, of the 10th of September—

That such a letter should be published, under the sanction of the Administration, against a man whom the Administration was about to put upon trial for his life, I believe, is a proceeding of which no Country on earth has before afforded an example. That the Administration should, under such circumstances, permit the publication of such a letter as General Cass', one that labours to represent my conduct in the most odious point of view, and takes pains to heighten the public resentment against me, by a colouring, which Colonel Cass could not know of his own knowledge, was true, appears to me, to be a violation of every principle of justice.

The Court will please to recollect that Colonels Cass and McArthur left Detroit, with the detachment to the

River Raisin on the 14th of August, and did not return to the Fort until the evening of the 16th; of course they could not know, of their own knowledge, what passed in the interim.

No person reading Colonel Cass' Letter, but would suppose he was an eye witness of all he relates—It is impossible to discover that he was absent in the expedition to the River Raisin. Yet General Cass states, as if it was a matter within his own knowledge, that when the troops received orders to retreat into the Fort, "one universal burst of indignation was apparent upon the receipt of this order." I beg to quote from this letter another paragraph, to shew what was the spirit with which it was written. The design of its publication, I must leave the Court to infer.

"To see the whole of our men flushed with victory, eagerly awaiting the approaching contest; to see them afterwards, hopeless, dispirited, and desponding, at least five hundred shedding tears, because they were not allowed to meet their Country's foe, and to fight their Country's battles, excited sensations which no American has ever before had."

Would not every one imagine that Colonel Cass was here describing a scene, which passed before his own eyes?

Did he actually see at least five hundred men shedding tears, or does the Court believe that this is a representation of a fact, which really occurred? If it were so, it is extraordinary that not a witness has testified to it? Captain McCormick says he observed some men shedding tears, but this falls greatly short of General Cass' five hundred. But who were these weeping troops? It

is not to be presumed that it was intended that we should believe they were the regulars; they are not commonly much given to weeping; they were not the Michigan Militia, because a part of them deserted, and the rest were disposed to go over to the Enemy, rather than fight him. The men then, who shewed this very extraordinary sensibility, must have been Colonel Cass' patriotic Volunteers. The same *Volunteers* who mutinied in the Camp, at Urbanna, and would not march till they were compelled to do so, by the regular troops. The same *Volunteers,* who rode the officers of one of their Companies, on a rail—The same *Volunteers,* 180 of whom, refused to cross into Canada; and the same *Volunteers,* who, when they had an opportunity, under Major Van Horn, to gratify their eager wishes to meet the Enemy in combat, ran away at the first fire, and left their officers to be massacred.

If General Cass did not witness this scene, why did he make such a representation? There can be no other reason, than that this kind of inflated description, was intended to recommend himself to the Government, by representing himself & his troops in the most favourable point of view, and me in the most unfavourable that even hyperbolical language would admit.

Sir, this is not the only means that have been resorted to, to excite and keep alive, the popular clamour against me. Others of my officers, finding what favour the publication of his letter gave him in the eyes of the Administration, have seen that the same road of preferment was open to them, and the newspapers from one end of the Continent to the other, have been filled with letters concerning me, expressed in terms, which neither truth,

justice, or even the laws of decorum, can sanction. Down to this very time, Sir, the same system is pursued. Now, while I have been on my trial, publications have appeared in the public prints of this City, commending the principal and leading witness for the manner in which he gave his testimony against me, that those who were to come after him might be encouraged to follow his example.

And, Sir, at this very *moment,* at the very *door* of this *building,* is hawked for sale, a work printed within these few days, in sight of this capitol, entitled, Views of the Campaign of the Northwestern Army, in which my conduct or motives are most grossly misrepresented. Who are *they* that thirst so for my blood, and take these means to obtain it?

It is not the ostensible author of this performance; his insignificance, and the contemptible talents employed in the work, shew him to be too mean to have a motive of his own. I know not who may be the authors or instigators of such outrages upon Justice. If such things are permitted, and can have any influence, then *the scales* ought to be *torn* from the hand of the figure which adorns the Hall wherein you sit. She ought only to be left the sword, with which she is decorated, and she ought to waive [sic] that, as an *emblem,* that *vengeance,* and not *justice,* is administered under this roof. But, Gentlemen, for what ever purpose these acts may have been intended, I rely with a perfect confidence, that you will rise superior to them. If I wanted other assurance of it, than that which is derived from your characters, I should have it in the patience, and impartiality, with which this prosecution, so far as depended on you, has been conducted.

Before I enter on an examination of the parole testimony, I must be permitted to remark, that I cannot but think that the course which has been pursued, of examining each witness in the presence of the rest, has been unfortunate for me. Till this Court decided that it should be so, I did think it was a well established rule of martial law, that the witnesses should be examined separately. The justice and propriety of this rule, I have very sensibly felt on this occasion. In a case where so much may depend upon the language or phrases in which the witnesses express themselves, it would have been desirable that each should have been left to the necessity of selecting his own language, to express his meaning. But according to the course pursued, each witness was at liberty to adopt the words which had been used by any other witness on the same point. The disposition of several of the witnesses to do so, has been very plainly manifested, by their answering, when interrogated as to my personal behaviour, that it was the *same* as had been represented by a prior witness.

It is true, Gentlemen, that the Judge Advocate would not accept these answers, and I presume, has not taken them down, but they nevertheless shew the natural disposition of the witness to borrow the words of another, and I have no doubt, they have, very conscientiously, and often without knowing it, borrowed ideas also.

Gentlemen, in these Courts Martial, where the Members, among whom there may be great inequality of grades, are intended to be put upon an equal footing, as Judges, care has been taken to avoid, as far as possible, the influence likely to arise from authority. It is on this account, that the opinion of the youngest Member is al-

ways first taken. And it was on the same account, as I conceive, that the rule was established, that witnesses should be examined separately; that the younger might not be influenced in his testimony by what might be said by his superior. It would be contrary to experience of the human disposition, to suppose that after a subaltern has heard two or three Generals and officers of higher rank than himself, testify, to whose authority he is, perhaps, subservient, or to whose good word he may have owed or expects to owe his promotion, he will be willing to contradict what his superiors have said, or even to make a representation which will vary from theirs.

If, on any case, Sir, the weight of this sort of influence, could be felt on the testimony, the course pursued on this occasion would give it the fairest scope. For the witnesses seem to have been arranged and produced, in the first instance, very much according to their rank, (except Colonel Miller). After the Generals had been examined, then came the subordinates. The exception to this general course, as to Colonel Miller struck me as a little singular. I did not know why he should have been examined the last, particularly as he was the highest officer of the regular army, who had been engaged in the campaign. He was with me during the whole time, and had the most intimate knowledge of the transactions to which the other gentlemen testified. But when I found that Colonel Miller's testimony was much less unfavourable to me, than the testimony of the witnesses who had preceded him, and that he would not support them in the most material parts of their testimony, I was at no loss to account for this course of proceeding.

The next accusation which I shall consider, is specified under the charge of unofficer-like conduct, and refers to the commencement of the march of the Army.

It is, in substance, that from the time I took the command, I omitted to exercise, inspect, train, review and order the Troops. I cannot believe, Gentlemen, that it will be necessary for me, to say much on this subject. I did expect that if any part of my conduct could have escaped the censure of my enemies, it would have been the manner in which I led the troops through the wilderness. When it is recollected, what an extent of road it was necessary for me to cut; that a great proportion of the men, were constantly employed in this duty; that those who were not so, were most generally fatigued with their turn of this laborious service; I believe the Court will think with Colonel Miller, that there was neither time nor opportunity, for that sort of discipline and exercise, which, under other circumstances would have been proper. The Commandants of Regiments have testified that, as to their respective commands, there was no omission of what was their duty in this respect. The fault charged to me, is then, that in the depths of the forest, through which we were marching, I did not call off my fatigue parties, guards and advances, and go through the ceremonies of military parade. And yet, as if every thing that I could have done, must, in the opinion of my officers, be condemned, my omissions to have these parades, are not more severely censured, than my conduct has been for making some display of the troops, and in passing them in review, on some few occasions, when I thought it was consistent with our situation. When the corps passed me by sections, after

we had crossed the Miami, General McArthur thinks it was not a review, because I was not according to his experience, in the situation which a reviewing General ought to have been; tho' he admits that the officers at the heads of sections saluted me—and he admits that it is possible he might have saluted me himself. At the River Raisin, I also passed the troops in review; I did the same at Spring Wells, and marched the troops from thence to Detroit and back. But these parades seem to have excited the indignation of General McArthur, as it did, according to his testimony, of other officers; but for what reason, I have not been able to learn. The truth is, that from the moment we commenced our march, the troops were always under my eye. I saw them on their line of march, I saw them in their working parties, and in their encampments. I thought it would be as ridiculous as useless, to make parades in the midst of the woods. Whenever the Country opened, so that there was room for display, I availed myself of it; not only that I might see the troops, and put them in military array; but I thought it would have a good effect, to shew our line to the best advantage, at the little settlements, which we passed, and on our arrival in the neighbourhood of Detroit.

I shall trouble the Court with nothing further in relation to this charge, than the following quotations from General Cass & Colonel Miller's testimony. General Cass states that, "from the time they left Urbanna, the march was conducted with all possible expedition. There was no time to discipline the troops." Colonel Miller on his cross examination says, "on the march there was no opportunity to discipline the troops. The

fatigues of the march, and cutting the road, and making encampments, were as much as the troops could endure."

Connected with the accusation which I have last answered, is another, which is in substance, that I did not, during the march, prepare and make known an order of battle. That I prepared & published an order of march, is admitted; a plan of it, which has been proved by several witnesses, is before you. This plan as appears from the testimony of General Van Rensellear & other witnesses, is that which was adopted by General Wayne, in the expedition which he commanded & marched through the same Country. This order of march, was, in fact, an order of battle, or at least, so little change of the disposition of the troops, was necessary in case of an attack, that it could be made in [a] moment, and was so obvious that it could never be mistaken. It it remarkable that the commanding officers, whose testimoney was expected to support this accusation, all say that they knew how their respective corps were to form, in case of attack; though, as they say, they never heard of any order of battle. It seems then, that an order of battle was made known, and the accusation must then rest upon the allegation, that the order was not made or published by me. General Cass' testimony on this subject, is as follows.

"I think, when we arrived near the River Huron, or between that and Swan Creek, the commanding officers of Regiments, under an expectation of an attack, applied to the General, and he permitted them to form an order of battle. I do not recollect that the General assisted in making the order; I think the plan originated with Colonel Miller; I do not recollect that the order was

afterwards submitted to General Hull. I presume there was an orderly book as orders were issued."

General McArthur's testimony on this point, is as follows. "On the day we passed the River Raisin, our march was about nine miles, and we encamped near Swan Creek. Rumours were among the inhabitants, that we should be attacked by Indians who were assembled at the Huron, about six miles in advance; myself and Colonel Findly called on the General and stated that some plan of battle ought to be agreed upon. In the march, my Regiment was divided; a battalion marched on each side of the road, in the rear of Colonels Findly and Cass. I mentioned to the General, that thus situated, it was impossible for me to be with both my battalions, and I wished to be permitted in case of attack, to form them in one line. The General thought it would be well enough to do so. I suggested the propriety of my battalions being so formed on the march in the rear of the Regiments, as that, in case of an attack, I might *swing* my Regiment round, and form the rear line of a hollow square. The General gave me his permission to adopt this plan. I then left him. *Whether I left the other officers with him or not I do not know.*"

Major Jessup testifies that I issued orders on the march. That they were generally sent to him by one of my aid de camps. That he assembled the adjutants and communicated to them my orders. He further stated that the orderly books generally were surrendered, but that Captain McCormick & Captain Rutleff who were adjutants of McArthur's & Findly's Regiments, had preserved theirs. It unfortunately happens that these books have not been brought on by these Gentlemen. Had they

been so, it would then have appeared what orders I did issue, and this matter would not have been left to the uncertain recollection of witnesses.

As I am accused of having omitted to issue orders, and of having given improper orders, I submit to the Court, whether I had not a right to expect that the orderly books which were in the possession of witnesses brought forward by the prosecution, would have been produced? Especially as I requested Major Jessup might be summoned with a *duces tecum,* to bring before the Court, all the official documents in his possession, and the orderly book. But I proceed to examine the testimony, in relation to the order of battle.

Colonel Miller testifies, "That an order of march was published at Urbanna, and was generally known to the Army. That the Army commonly marched according to that order. It was my understanding" says Colonel Miller, "that that [sic] in case of an attack in front, my Regiment was to form the line in front. In case of an attack on the right flank, we were to form by facing the Enemy; and so in case of an attack on the left. This was a general understanding, but I do not recollect to have seen any order to this purport, either written or verbal. I understood it from conversation with General Hull, and I believe it was so understood by the other officers. The General told me that the order of march which he had adopted, was that which had been pursued by General Wayne. I know nothing to the contrary." Colonel Miller adds, "of the General's having been almost always, when we were on the march, in a situation to direct the movements of the troops. For the greatest part of the time, the General rode near me in front. Sometimes

he passed to the rear. Generally the Army encamped in a hollow square. After we apprehended danger, we commonly formed a breast work, and encamped within it. By a general order each line was to form in front of its tents, if attacked in camp. There was also a general order for turning out the troops by taps of the drum, proceeding from head quarters along the lines. This method was practised, and the troops were called to arms every morning before dawn, by these signals."

I believe, Gentlemen, that this is the whole of the testimony on this point, which can be considered as of any importance. It cannot be disputed then, but that there was an order of battle. But General Cass' testimony seems intended to leave an impression that the order did not originate with me, but that it was suggested by my officers & adopted by them, with my assent, without my having given myself much trouble about it. I can not but think that in this instance, there is a display of the spirit, with which much of the testimony, has been given in this case. It seems to have been determined that I shall not even share in the credit of anything that was done, that ought to have been done. My officers claim everything that is meritorious, as theirs.

General Cass says, he does not recollect whether I assisted in making the order, or whether it was submitted to me after it was made. This is one of the instances, in which it is extremely unfortunate for me that the recollection of the witnesses entirely fails them, as to matters of the greatest importance, and which might be decisive, if in my favour, as to the particular accusation; while their memories serve them with remarkable correctness and minuteness, as to circumstances which are unfavorable to me.

I hope I may be permitted to digress, so far as to remark another instance of the unfortunate want of recollection, tho' it relates to a different point.

Major Jessup after having stated that he came to me in the Fort, after the flag was hoisted on the 16th of August, adds, "I inquired of the General, if it were possible we were about to surrender—The General said something about the Enemy's force, and something about terms, which I do not recollect."

Major Jessup then goes on to state very particularly, what he said to me, to express his strong aversion to the surrender. I have surely great reason to regret that Major Jessup's memory would not enable him to state what I said, when it might have been so important to shew the motives of my conduct, while every thing that he said to me, which was calculated to set his own conduct in the most favorable point of view, made so deep an impression on his mind, that he could undertake to relate the very expressions he had used.

But to return to what respects the order of battle.

General McArthur states that after, on his suggestion, he had settled with me, how he was to *swing* his Regiment in case of an attack; says, "I then left the General; whether I left the other officers with him, or not, I do not know." It appears then, that this arrangement, about the order of battle, was concluded in the presence of other officers; what others, General McArthur does not state. Colonel Miller says, he understood from conversations with me, what was to be the disposition of his corps, in case of an attack.

Thus it appears that Colonel McArthur, Colonel Cass, Colonel Findly & Colonel Miller all knew what they were

to do, if an Enemy was to approach us. What foundation is there, then, for a charge that no order of battle was made known? If the subordinate officers were not instructed as to their duty, in the event of an attack, was it not the fault of these Commandants of Corps, and not mine? Suppose there had been no written order of battle; but that after the order of march, which so nearly approached the order of battle, had been formed, I had explained to the Commandants, the disposition I intended, in case of an attack, could any man say I was deficient in duty, because I had not explained my intentions in a written order? I believe *no one* acquainted with military history or practice, will think a General is bound to make an *exposure* of his *plans,* in every orderly book in his Army. If the Witnesses, on whose opinions, these charges, & specifications, have been framed, have entertained such erroneous *ideas* of the duties of a Commander, as this accusation seems to indicate, I hope, now that *some* of them have attained a rank, which may give them the command of armies, they will learn, that by giving a general publicity, in their orderly books, to their designs, in case of an attack, it will be a departure from their duty, and that they may often thereby give their Enemy an opportunity of gaining information which he ought not to have.

As to the order of battle at night—It is proved by the testimony of Colonel Miller, that, that was settled by a general order, which was made known to all, and when the Court considers what was the nature of our lines of march;—how nearly it approached the only order of battle, which could have been proper, in the *warfare* which we were to expect;—How instantly the order of

march was made the order of battle;—and consider also, that I was always at the head of the troops, while they were on the march, I am persuaded the Court will think, there is no foundation for this accusation.

If it has not originated in malice, it certainly has in ignorance.—

I am unwilling to detain the Court longer on a charge, which in my opinion, is sufficiently answered. But I know I ought not to place so much confidence in my own opinion, as not to avail myself of any thing which may have an influence on the opinions of others. I must, therefore, advert to other testimony, which, I believe, ought to be conclusive on this point. I mean my letters to the War Department. Those to which I shall refer for this purpose, the Court will recollect, were read by the Judge Advocate. If I had offered them, they certainly would not have been conclusive evidence in my favour, but when introduced on the part of the prosecution, so far as they establish any thing in my favour, they are as good evidence as they are to prove anything against me. It would be a manifest violation of justice, if this sort of testimony should be resorted to for my crimination, and I should not be permitted to avail myself of it, so far as it might serve for my exculpation. It is a general rule, which applies to the administration of justice in all Courts, that wherever a document is read by one side, the whole if it becomes evidence, of which either party may avail himself. I beg leave to remind the Court that this rule has been acknowledged by the Judge Advocate. The Court will recollect, that in the course of the examination of Captain Fuller, Major Parker, objected to take down his answer to a

question, which I put to the witness, as being unnecessary, because the fact, as to which I interrogated him, was sufficiently proved by my letters to the Secretary at War. In my letter, dated Solomon's Town 18th June 1812, I say, "My order of march is in two columns, with strong front & rear guards. The columns flanked by the riflemen and cavalry, where the ground will admit; The baggage, provisions &c. between the columns. The Army has been practised, from the two columns to form two lines, either in front, rear, or on either flank, or to form a square facing outward. My order of encampment at night, is a square, facing outward, with all the baggage in the centre, &c."

My letters of the 24th June 1812, from near Blanchard's creek, inclosed to the Secretary at War, the order of march which has been given in evidence. Among the manuscript notes subjoined to that order, is one in the following words—"The columns are in a situation to form two lines in front, rear, or on either flank, or to form a square."

After these observations, I cannot but be satisfied, that the Court will think, that there was no ground for charging me with neglecting to discipline & review my troops, or omitting to prepare, and make known an order of battle.

The next accusations that I shall consider, are, that I neglected to repair & put in order the cannon at Detroit, and to put the place in a state of defence. That I did not seasonably repair & put in a state of service, the artillery necessary for the operations in Canada; and that I did not transport them to the Enemy's shore, as soon as I ought to have done. I have already had oc-

casion, incidentally to notice these accusations, and I shall give no further answer to them, than to refer the Court to the testimony of Captain Delliba. He states that, when I arrived at Detroit, "The Fort was generally in good order, and in a good state of repair." On his cross examination, Captain Dalliba says, "The fort was in the state of defence I have described, except as to some immaterial matters, on the 4th day of July, before the arrival of the Army. Afterwards something was done with the ordnance stores, and mounting the cannon. But everything designed for the defence of the Fort, exclusively, was completed on the 4th of July." "After the General's arrival at Detroit, industry & exertions were used to put in order the field pieces & heavy artillery, for the seige of Malden. This was done, (says the witness) under my superintendance, & by order of General Hull."

This witness was examined on the 8th of February four days afterwards, on the 12th, he is again called by the Judge Advocate, and then he testifies as follows—"I have before stated that no alterations had been subsequent to the 4th July, for defence of the Fort." "Some few artificers, immediately after the arrival of General Hull, went to work to repair & mount some heavy cannon, on trucks, to be placed in the batteries on the banks of the River. And some repairs were made to three brass field pieces & a small quantity of ammunition was fixed for them. But no order was received to my knowledge, to prepare the heavy field artillery, till after the army went to Canada. I have the order & think it was dated on the 15th or 16th of July."

I have already made some remarks on this testimony,

and stated that the order was in fact given on the 14th of July. Till that time the Artificers had been otherwise employed. I will remind the Court here, of the objection offered, and which was over-ruled by the Court, to this mode of re-examining a witness. If to examine the witnesses in the presence of each other, be a departure from the usages of Courts Martial, it is certainly a much wider and more important deviation from that usage, to call up a witness, and to allow him to make important alterations in his testimony, after he has been listening for days, to the testimony of other witnesses. I now mark this irregularity, as I conceive it to be, for the sake of presenting it, as well as the fact of all the witnesses having been, pursuant to a determination of this Court, examined in the presence of each other, to the attention of the high officer, who has authority to review these proceedings.

Colonel Miller testifies that he "discovered no want of exertion in respect to preparing the heavy & ligh field artillery, after the army arrived at Detroit."

General Taylor says, "I believe no time was lost in preparations; timber & some large wheels were got out." Again the same witness says, that he visited the Artificers every day, to hurry the preparations, with orders from Genl. Hull, "And I must say, (adds the witness) that General Hull shewed great anxiety in getting the artillery ready."

I pray leave to make one remark on this language of General Taylor's, which I am aware may have the appearance of being hypercritical. But I beg the indulgence of the Court, till I have explained my reasons for noticing a circumstance apparently trivial. Why should

General Taylor preface his testimony of this fact in my favor, with the phrase, "I must say?" It seems, as if, to state any circumstance favorable to me, was the result of a compulsion, to which his mind unwillingly submitted. In this instance he speaks like a *penitent,* whose conscience obliges him to make the acknowledgement of a fact, which his inclination would prompt him to conceal. I had a right to expect that when the witnesses could testify anything in my favor, they would speak in the same unreserved language, which they used, when they intended to expose my misconduct. Upon most occasions, observations on circumstances apparently so light, might not be proper or necessary. But, Gentlemen, I beg you to recollect, that the witnesses have undertaken to interpret my *looks,* and have ventured to infer from my *countenance,* from my *appearance & manner,* what was passing in my mind, and by what *motives* I was actuated. They have not hesitated to express opinions, derived from no other indications, when they knew that these opinions might affect my honor, and my life. It cannot be improper then, that I should ask you to remark even the slightest expression of a witness, which I may think will betray the disposition with which he testifies. It is with reluctance, that I attempt to impeach the testimony of any witness, who has been called against me. I have been taught to venerate a soldier from my infancy. I know that the profession of arms generally adds lustre to the most noble virtues. But I know that men do not change their natures by becoming soldiers, nor by attaining the most elevated rank; and when they can reconcile to themselves to accuse me of cowardice, from appearances so falla-

cious, surely I may remark that expressions they have used, indicate bias, partiality, or prejudice.

Without detaining the Court, with a particular recapitulation of more of the evidence on this point, I shall content myself with referring the Court to the very important and decisive testimony of Captain Dyson; to the testimony of Captain Bacon, and finally, to the testimoney of Mr Watson, who says that after my arrival at Detroit, no man could have been more industrious and indefatigable than I was. I proceed to a new subject, and shall now make my defence against the accusation, which is, in substance; That I did not avail myself of the opportunity, which the defeat of the Enemy, by Colonels Cass & Miller, and their possession of the Bridge over the River Aux Canards, on the 18th July, afforded of making an attempt on Malden; and that I did not maintain possession of the Bridge.

This forms the sixth specification under the charge of unofficerlike conduct.

The exposition which I have already presented, of my views and designs, when I crossed to Canada, would, I humbly conceive, afford a sufficient answer to these accusations. I did not think it expedient to attack Malden, under any circumstances which existed, previous to our leaving Canada. Why I thought it inexpedient, I have already explained. The advantages which I thought were to be gained by delay;—a regard which my orders compelled me to pay to the security of my own posts;—the necessity of keeping open my communication;—the certain consequences of defeat;—and the probable consequences of victory, have all been considered in making my defence against the charge of undue delay in Canada.

If I was justifiable, or even excuseable, in deferring the attack on Malden, I must be so in having omitted to avail myself of the possession of the Bridge, and in not having attempted to maintain it. It would have been absurd to have attempted to maintain a post, so far in advance, unless it was with a view to an immediate movement on Malden. But I beg the Court to advert to the date of this transaction. It was not on the eighteenth day of July, as mentioned in the specification, but on the 17th as appears by my letter to Colonel Cass. This was the fifth day after we moved into Canada—At that time, the deliberations of my officers in Canada, had uniformly resulted in the expression of an opinion that the attempt on the Enemy's fortress should be deferred, till the Artillery was prepared. And it was immediately after the Council at Sandwich, in which Colonel Cass himself, as appears by the testimony of Judge Witherell, had advised that the attack on Malden, should not be made without cannon.

My views in sending this detachment, or rather, in permitting Colonel Cass to march it, appear from his testimony. I meant it as a reconnoitreing party, and by no means intending that the commanding officer should pursue measures, which might expose the detachment to be sacrificed, or oblige me to abandon the system I had adopted, by leading my whole Army to it is [sic] support. Colonel Cass testifies that, a day or two after Colonel McArthur was detached to the River Trench, he, (Colonel Cass) requested me to permit him to reconnoitre the ground between Sandwich and Malden, that I did permit it, and a detachment of two hundred & eighty men were ordered for that service.

General Taylor states that he was present when news arrived that Colonel Cass had taken the Aux Canards bridge. "That I expressed my astonishment that Colonel Cass should have commenced hostilities, as I was not ready with the Artillery: that I appeared to be irritated, because Colonel Cass had taken upon himself to act, without my authority; the detachment having only been sent out for observation."

It cannot be doubted but that General Cass knew my views, and the objects of his detachment—How far he was justifiable in pursuing measures, so contrary to them, not only in making an attack, which might have forced me to a general and decisive action for his support, but after my verbal orders to retire, persisting to maintain his situation, till he had tried the effect of a written remonstrance to me, it is unnecessary now to consider. I do now believe that the whole of this proceeding was a manouvre, to afford grounds for new clamours against me and weaken my authority—My officers, long before they had matured their conspiracy to wrest the command from me, by actual violence to my person, had formed a plan, of which I firmly believe this was a part, to place me in such a situation as would oblige me to be obedient to their schemes. If anything successful was done, they would claim all the merit—In case of disaster, the blame could easily be thrown on the commanding General.—If I had led the Army, to the Canards, which probably I must have done, to have maintained the bridge, instead of its being alledged against me as a crime, that I did not do so, do you not believe, Gentlemen, in case we had been defeated; I should have been charged with misconduct, in having acted in oppo-

sition to the advice of all the Councils, not to move on Malden, without artillery? And when it is considered, that Colonel McArthur was absent with a large detachment; that I had received no intelligence from him; that I was under great uneasiness on his account; I do think that, if I had left him in my rear, and with only part of my army, had taken grounds, which might have been the field of a general action, with the Enemy's whole force, which was then, either in respect to its regulars, militia or savages, unascertained, and at that time, but inconsiderably weakened by desertion, I should have been highly culpable.

Colonel Miller's account of this transaction is as follows, "In answer to a message sent to General Hull, he sent us an order to return. The purport of his message was, that he could not soon be ready for the attack on Malden, and could not think of dividing the Army. We then wrote to him, and pressed in strong terms the necessity of maintaining the bridge. In answer to which, he sent a written discretionary order to us, expressing his anxiety about Gen: McArthur &c." This order has been proved. It is in the following words.

"Sandwich 17th July 1812.

"Sir

I have received your letter of this morning. To my astonishment, I have not received the least information from McArthur. It is possible something unpleasant has taken place. It will probably be a week before the cannon will be mounted. I am sensible of the advantage of holding the Bridge. I would not, however, hazard too much, for the purpose. The Enemy may pass the

ford above, and come in the rear. I will however, leave to your discretion and Coll. Miller's, under all the circumstances of the case, to do that which you judge most expedient. Twelve miles is a great distance, and the Enemy can either land in boats, above the mouth of the River, or pass at the ford to attack you. You know the ground better than I do, and as I before observed, I will leave the measure and the force to your discretion and Coll. Miller's, & the best mode of security to the party."

I am very respectfully, your most
Obedt. Servt.
W. Hull, B. Genl.
Comg.

Col. Cass.

Col. Miller further testifies that, "Upon the receipt of this letter, the officers were called together, and it was decided, that unless the Bridge, being twelve or fourteen miles from our camp, and only four or five from the Enemy could be supported by *our whole force*, we had better return, and that as we had not the disposition of the whole force, which was thought necessary, we ought not to take the responsibility."

This testimony, I think, developes too plainly to be misunderstood, the design of these proceedings. I was to be compelled to abandon my own plans, and to adopt those of my officers. I was to be compelled to lead my whole force, in a manner under the walls of Malden, without being provided with artillery, and I was urged to do this, by the commandant of the detachment, who, but a

day or two previously, had given a decisive opinion in Council, that the attack on Malden, should not be made, till the ordnance was prepared. But when it was found that my order left the officers of the detachment a discretion, and that if any attempt to maintain the bridge, should be attended with any disaster, the officers must share the responsibility, then there was no doubt as to the measures to be pursued. It would have disappointed the whole design, if I should escape any part of the odium.

But however this affair of the Bridge has been magnified, it is a fact, that the possession of that pass by the Enemy, never was contemplated as an obstacle, to a movement on Malden. They in truth, never attempted to maintain possession of it. Colonel Cass' recontre was only with a reconnoitering party. According to the testimony of Colonel Miller, they saw no more than fifty of the Enemy. He says, they had about twenty-five men on the bridge, and about twenty five on our side, and that some men were discovered in the woods. After this, there were, as appears from the testimony of Colonel Cass, repeated detachments sent from Sandwich to the Bridge. They always found it unoccupied by the Enemy. It could then have been no object to have moved the Army to that post, until the attack on Malden was determined upon.

It is curious to observe what trivial and irrelevant circumstances, ingenuity can bring together to create false appearances. Some of the Gentlemen, who were prisoners with the Enemy, at the time of this transaction, have been produced to testify that when accounts reached Amherstburgh, that out [sic] detachment had ap-

peared in the Aux Canards, it created great consternation, and it was intended that it should be believed that the Enemy were ready to abandon their post, at our approach. But it turns out upon further explanation from witnesses of the same description, that the disposition to fly, was only manifested by the town's people, who thought it unnecessary to expose their persons and effects in a place which was likely to be invested. This, so far from evidence of an intention to yield the place, without contest, is not an unfrequent measure when the most obstinate resistance is intended.

In my letter to the Secretary at War of the 19. July, I mention the affair at the Aux Canards Bridge, and say great credit is due to Colonel Cass and his detachment. For firmness, Colonel Cass and the other Volunteers, when supported by the proportion of regulars, which were with them in this first encounter with any Enemy, I did think credit was due to both men and officers. But when I wrote that letter, I had not the same views of the designs formed against me, which subsequent circumstances have expressed. I did not then see that a plan, which has been so successful, was settled, to make my destruction a merit, which was to give another my place, and some of his accomplices, *rank* & *fortune.*

I am charged with un-officer-like conduct in suffering my communication with the River Raisin to be cut off. This imputation is among the last that I expected to find in the catalogue of my accusations. If it had been intended to shew that nothing that I did, or intended to do, could escape censure, this specification would afford strong evidence of such a disposition. For the means

that I took to open this communication, are also made the subjects of accusation. The detachment under Colonel Van Horn; the retreat from Canada; the detachment under Colonel Miller; and under Colonels McArthur and Cass; altho' they were all measures which were dictated by the strong necessity, which I saw and felt, to keep open the communication in question—are all set down as instances of misconduct. But I would ask those, at whose instigation these charges have been made, what measures I should have pursued to have affected this object? It must be remembered that it was utterly in vain to have opened the communication to the River Raisin only—No supplies could come from thence, that were not drawn from the Western States. I must therefore have protected the road all the way from Ohio. Was this to have been done by stretching back so great a distance with a sufficient force? If so, my whole army would have been insufficient for the purpose. The two hundred men I sent under Major Van Horn, my two senior officers thought insufficient. In their opinion I ought to have detached for this duty, one of their Regiments. Colonel Miller, after he had defeated the Enemy, had more than five hundred men left, and was within fourteen miles of his destination. He thought it necessary to send back to me, for a reinforcement of one hundred and fifty or two hundred, before he could proceed, altho' he knew that at the River Raisin, he was to be joined, and would be strengthened in his march back by the detachment under Captain Brush, which had escorted the provisions to the River Raisin. If so great a number of men was requisite, merely to force a passage to the River Raisin and back, how great a portion of my army

would have been necessary to keep open the road to Ohio, or even that portion of it which was between Detroit and the Raisin?

I think it must appear to the Court that I could not have kept open this extensive line of communication, without distributing my whole army along the road, and yet, according to the inferences to be drawn from the charges, and specifications, I was criminal in not carrying on an offensive war in Canada, and in not performing at the same time, another service which would have required all my troops—

That this communication ought to have been kept open, is most certain—I did expect it would have been. I did suppose that a force would have been sent after me, adequate not only to this purpose, but to augment my Army—The grounds I had for these expectations, will appear from documents which are before the Court, to some of which I have already adverted.

It is alleged that I was guilty of misconduct in sending the detachment under Major Van Horn, because it was inadequate to the purpose for which it was intended. The proof of the inadequacy, I presume is, that it was defeated—It appears, however, that it was not owing to the want of numbers, that this defeat happened—According to Major Van Horn's own account, the party that attacked him, he judged from the fire, was from 150 to 200. This was conjecture, for more than forty savages were not seen. But these Volunteers, the same patriotic men who are said to have wept so bitterly, because they were not allowed to fight at Detroit, fled in the first moments of an attack, with the utmost disorder and precipitation—Had this not been the case, the

detachment was sufficient. If it had fought the Enemy, there can be no doubt but it would have made its way good to the River Raisin, where it would have been joined by a large detachment under Captain Brush—If the detachment had been ever so large, it would have been insufficient, if the men behaved no better than those Major Van Horn commanded, did upon this occasion. But, Sir, the true foundation for this charge, is that I did not think proper to be obedient to the advice of my two senior officers. It was placed in this black catalogue, solely for the purpose of giving *them* an opportunity of proclaiming to the world, their own superior sagacity and judgment. It was to give *them* an opportunity to prove, by their own testimony, that whatever I did was wrong, and that whatever they advised would have been right—

But, possibly, I ought to have suffered the advice of these officers, upon this occasion, to have had more weight—I should have reflected that they had the best opportunity of knowing the character of their own troops, and might have anticipated their shameful conduct. But then, I think I have reason to complain that Colonels Cass and McArthur were not at this time, as candid as they were when it was proposed to attempt Malden by assault, and that they did not tell me, as they did then, that they could not be responsible for their men. If they had told me this, I might have thought it right to increase the force of the detachment, and to have added to it, some regulars, whose presence might, as it did at the Aux Canards, have encouraged the Volunteers to face the Enemy, or made them more afraid to run away than to fight—

[The Court adjourned to convene the following morning at 10 o'clock when General Hull proceeded with his defence, as follows:]

The next accusation is one that can only have been set down to swell the list of offences imputed to me. For it is without any manner of foundation—It charges me with unofficerlike conduct in having detached Colonel Miller on the eighth of August and not having supplied him with provisions when he was near Brownstown—
While Sir, I feel myself bound to acknowledge the liberality with which I have been treated by the Judge Advocate in the course of this trial and the delicacy with which he has in general refrained from repeating the odious epithets which are so profusely & wantonly used in the specifications. I cannot but regret, that he has in respect to this charge departed from his general observance; and that he should upon such evidence as was before him have thought himself justifiable in imputing to me misconduct on this occasion an [sic] useless waste of *American blood.*

Sir, the American blood that was spilled in the contest at Brownstown was gloriously shed. It purchased a victory that did honor to our arms. True, it was ineffectually shed but to lay the failure of the enterprize to me & to reproach me with this waste of blood, is as unjust as it is inhuman.

I do not understand that I am supposed to have done wrong in sending the detachment or in not making it of

greater force—by the testimony of Colonel Miller, it appears that he marched with six hundred men instead of 500, as is mentioned in the specification—But the misconduct imputed to me is as I understand solely that I omitted to supply Colonel Miller with provisions after the battle at Brownstown—

With respect to the want of Provisions, it appears that the detachment was amply provided, when it left Detroit—The march they were to perform was about thirty miles—and Colonel Miller states that they were furnished with a supply for two days when they set out —*but* (he says) the provisions were thrown away with the men's knapsacks when they were attacked and though he represents the Enemy to have been entirely beaten and so far driven from him from off his rout that Captain Maxwell went from him to Brownstown & back & reported that the enemy were all gone, and though Colonel Miller states that he returned to the battle ground with his whole force and was in fact undisturbed on that ground, nearly two days yet he says in his cross examination that the provisions were not recovered because he could not suffer his men to separate and take them up. I cannot conceive what necessity there could have been for his men's separating:—It appears to me that he would only have had to march his whole detachment over the ground where the attack was made and the provisions might have been recovered with as much security to the detachment, as when they were remaining inactive in the position to which they had retrogaded—Colonel Miller in his account of this transaction states, that he considered that his victory opened the communication to the River Raisin sufficiently for him to have proceed-

ed that on the evening of the day on which the battle was fought (that is on the 9th) he sent Major Snelling to make a report to me to inform me of the loss of provisions and to request that [I] would send boats or waggons with Provisions and to take back the wounded— He was also to request a reinforcement for Colonel Miller, which Colonel Miller on his cross examination says he suggested should be from 150 to 200 men— . . —

Colonel Miller also states that Colonel McArthur came down the next morning (that is on the 10th) with 8 or 9 boats and brought with him no more than two barrels of flour one barrel of pork and a half a barrel of whiskey— . . —

That the place where the battle was fought was about 14 miles from Detroit and 16 to the River Raisin between Maguago & Brownstown it being late in the day before the wounded men could be got on board the boats he knew that he could not get through before the next night, (that is the 11th) moving as cautiously as they ought to do—That the men still complaining of hunger he concluded that he could send to Detroit that evening (that is the 10th) and have provisions the next morning —that he accordingly sent an express to me on the evening of the 10th requesting that I would send him two days provisions—That no messenger from me came to him till sundown the next day (that is the 11th.) That the Messenger informed him that he had been detained by losing his way that this Messenger brought him an order from me to return to Detroit and informed him that he would find provisions at the River Ecor[c]e— That on the same evening he took up his march for Detroit and arrived there the next day the 12th—That his

force was 280 Regulars & 320 militia some of the Michigan Militia and some of the Detroit Horse—that the militia behaved well—that his loss was 17 killed & 64 wounded—

Sir, it has always appeared to me most unaccountable, that Colonel Miller after he had disposed of his wounded men on the 10th and when according to his own testimony he considered that his victory had opened the communication to the River Raisin did not proceed—he had but sixteen miles to march he remained in the position he had taken from the evening of the 10th when he had embarked his wounded men till the evening of the eleventh that is twenty four hours, when he might have accomplished his march as I should think in four or five hours—At the end of it he was sure not only to meet the provisions he was sent to escort but a strong reinforcement from the detachment under Captain Brush he says however that on the evening of the 10th he determined to halt where he was and to wait the return of an express from me because he should be obliged to move with so much caution that he knew he could not get through until the next night—A very extraordinary caution indeed must have been necessary that could have retarded for so long a time the march of a body of Troops for sixteen miles through a space which it had been ascertained by the report of Captain Maxwell was as far as Brownstown at least, free from an Enemy—

But if the want of provisions was a reason for not proceeding to the River Raisin why did not Colonel Miller push on to Brownstown—there was an Indian Settlement which without doubt was at least capable of supplying his immediate wants and from which he could

not have been distant but a very few miles—If there he could have got but one meal for his Troops it does appear to me that there would not have been any great enterprize in undertaking the rest of the march which might have been twelve or fourteen miles without any further provisions—

It did appear to me not less extraordinary that when Colonel Miller advised me that when he had gained so decisive a victory that he considered his road to the River Raisin as opened and that he had ascertained that there was no enemy between him & Brownstown that he should at the same time have made a demand on me for a reinforcement of 150 or 200 men when after his battle he had 520 effective men 280 of whom where of his own Regiment and were almost the whole force of that description which I had under my command—

Let me here remark if so great a force that is to say between seven & eight hundred men were necessary to force their way to the River Raisin, what proportion of my Troops must have been necessary not only to keep open the communication for that distance but to guard the line all the way to the State of Ohio?—

But it is not my business to examine the conduct of Colonel Miller further than to shew that when I dispatched him with so large a detachment with rations for two days—I had made every provision which I had any reason to think his exigencies would require—

When however I received his demand for provisions I took every measure that the duty of my station required to supply him. Colonel McArthur was charged with this service and I beg to present to the Court his account of the manner in which he performed it—"On the day we

crossed from Canada'' (says Colonel McArthur that is the 8th of August) ''Colonel Miller was sent with a detachment for the purpose as was stated of opening a communication with the River Raisin—The night succeeding Colonel Miller's Battle at Maguago (perhaps the 9th) the General sent for me—the night was wet; he informed me of the Battle and directed me to take 100 of my Regiment to take the boats along the River and to descend to Colonel Miller's encampment for the purpose of bringing up the wounded men—He directed me to get one days provision for Colonel Miller's detachment —I called at the Commissary's and was detained three or four hours in getting it—I got what I could—''

It has been my misfortune Sir that I have not been able to obtain the testimony of Mr Beard, the Commissary. He has been regularly summoned by the Judge Advocate at my request and I have several times written to him but he has not made his appearance.—The Judge Advocate however, with his wonted candour has admitted a document which in some measure supplies his testimony—It is an order which I issued to the Contractor, on the 9th of August for delivering rations to Colonel McArthur for Colonel Miller's detachment—The receipt of which order is acknowledged by the Contractor or a copy thereof which is in the following words.

''The contractor will issue six hundred rations of bread or flour six hundred rations of pork and twelve hundred rations of whiskey to be sent to the detachment under the command of Lt. Colonel Miller.

''By order of Brigadier General Hull
''H. H. Hickman Capt. Infantry''
''Augt. 9th 1812''
(''Correct Copy'')
''D Beard—''

Now, Sir, It appears that General McArthur knew that one purpose of sending him to Colonel Miller's detachment was to carry provisions He says I directed him to take one days provision for Colonel Miller's men. That he was detained by the Contractor three or four hours & took what he could get, and it appears that he arrived at Colonel Miller's encampment with only two Barrels of Flour, one barrel of Pork, and half a Barrel of Whiskey—When I had given the order to Colonel McArthur to take the Provisions, when I had issued the order to the proper officer to issue them to him had I not done every thing that was incumbent on me as Commanding Officer? Was it my duty to go to the Commissary's store & to superintend the issues? If Colonel McArthur found the Commissary disobedient to my order and unduly detaining him why did he not report to me? How will Colonel McArthur excuse his having departed on this service without having with him the quantity of Provisions I had ordered? Is it sufficient for him to say he took what he could get? If there was any deficiency he ought to have informed me of it. He could have had communication with me in five minutes. If want of Provisions was the reason why the American Blood that was spilled at the battle of Brownstown was shed in vain, I again ask was it not most unjust to charge that waste to me? On the 10th of August I issued another order for Provisions for Colonel Miller's detachment—This has also been read & is in the following words—

"Detroit August 10th 1812—

"The Contractor will issue for Colonel Miller's detachment—two thousand complete rations—"

"A. F. Hull—Aid de Camp—"

These provisions were sent by the Contractor to Colonel Miller's detachment—Colonel Miller met them on his return and brought them back with him—

An accusation of the same nature with that which I last considered is that I also omitted to supply with Provisions the Detachment which left Detroit on the 14th of August under Colonels McArthur & Cass—General McArthur's testimony on this subject is as follows—"That on the 14th of August about noon as he thought I sent for him & informed him that I had just received intelligence from Captain Brush, that he had arrived at the River Raisin with provisions, and said, I wished to send out a detachment to meet him—That he replied he was ready to obey my order—Colonel Cass said the same thing—That they (the witness & Colonel Cass) then returned to Camp & shortly after received an order to detach 150 men from each of their Regiments—That in the evening I came along & asked if they were ready to march. The witness answered that they were not but as usual had not a bite of any thing to eat. That, I said the Detachment must not be delayed and that I would send provision after them.—The witness then gives an account of the proceedings of the detachment till its return to Detroit, and states that they never received any provisions from the Fort—

I cannot but think that this account of General McArthurs conduct tho' given by himself will excite the surprize of the Court.

He was ordered to march a detachment at about twelve o'clock—He does not move till evening & then I find that he has not obeyed the order—He gives me to understand that he has been waiting for provisions. If there was

no order for provisions why did he not apply to me on the subject? But there was one and I think General McArthurs testimony shews it.—When he sees me he does not complain of the want of an order, but that he cannot get the Provisions.—If there was an order and the proper officer did not obey it, why was not the disobedience reported to me? Instead of pursuing so obvious a course—Colonel McArthur chose rather to remain in his Camp five or six hours, and if I had not accidentally met with him, how much longer he would have considered his delay warranted by the same cause it is impossible to say.—It does appear to me that this conduct of General McArthur is very unaccountable—Perhaps he had no inclination for the service he had been ordered to perform or it may be that he thought that by the delay or by going without provisions he would bring blame on me. The behaviour of General McArthur upon these two occasions that is to say in respect to the Provisions which he was to take for Colonel Miller and in respect to Provisions for his own detachment it appears to me manifests very strongly that there was some hidden motive for his conduct—And in this last instance there is a mystery which I am sure is not explained by anything he has said—It never can be believed that he waited so many hours solely for the purpose of obtaining an order for provisions, or if he had an order that his delay was merely for the purpose of having it executed.—If his only object had been to procure provisions the means of doing so by an application to me were so obvious & direct that he could not have hesitated to pursue it. But if the Court will recollect that at this time the conspiracy had been formed to

take the command from me and that General Cass in his letter to the Government has stated that the execution of it was only prevented by his and General McArthur's having been sent on this detachment, it may account for the conduct of these officers—The delay was, possibly to mature their plot and to put it in practice—

If General McArthur was on his trial for misconduct in relation to these transactions I am persuaded that his testimony ought rather to convict him than me.—

But I did take measures for supplying the detachment with the necessary provisions—My information from Captain Brush was that he would be on his march with the provisions under his escort with the expectation of meeting a detachment from Detroit for his support.—

It appeared to me that not a moment ought to be lost in sending a force to meet him, and when I found that General McArthur had delayed to execute my orders for so many hours, I determined that the departure of the detachment should be no longer postponed—I therefore ordered it to march & determined to send provisions after it on pack horses.—I immediately gave the necessary orders to the acting commissary General for that purpose. This is proved by the testimony of General Taylor. He says that on the 14th of August I did give him an order to furnish pack horses to carry provisions for the detachment going to the River Raisin under Colonels McArthur & Cass. That he did not know that the provisions were sent but the pack horses were furnished for the purpose and he presumes the provisions were sent. That I gave all the necessary orders for sending them is certain and if my orders were not complied with, I do not think that I am the person that ought

to be called to answer for it. It never can be expected that a commanding officer should not only give orders but that he should attend to the execution of the details. There was as Mr Watson has testified a want of system in every department of the army which it was impossible for me to remedy because the heads of them were totally inexperienced. However the fact is, that the provisions in this case were sent. But as the detachment, pursuant to my orders took an unusual & obscure road, the guides, as I have heard mislead the provisions and they were not heard of before the surrender.—In the seventh specification under the charge of Unofficerlike conduct is assembled a variety of accusations. The first is a little incongruous in its language—It is stated that the enemy having erected batteries opposite to Detroit, I was from the eleventh day of August to & including the sixteenth day of the same month guilty of a neglect of duty in not preventing the enemy from erecting the said Batteries. It would be an answer to this charge to say that I could not have prevented the erection of Batteries which it is stated were already in existence—But though I think there are many incongruities of the same nature in the specifications—I have not attempted to avail myself of them and shall no further notice this—The Court will observe that this accusation is connected with & indeed entirely rests upon a previous allegation, that I well knew that these Batteries were erected by the enemy with an intention to annoy Detroit & with a design to facilitate the invasion of the Michigan Territory—The fact is that I had no such knowledge—I had a firm persuasion that the enemy would not invade our territory. —I did believe that the war on their part would be

entirely a defensive war and that these batteries were only intended for the defence of their own shores—I admit Sir, that my opinions in this respect subsequent events have proved, were entirely erroneous; But I cannot believe that a mistake in opinion or judgement is to be punished as a crime.—This would be less a defence to an accusation of this nature was not the charge so connected as I have mentioned with the allegation that I knew how the enemy intended to employ their batteries —The question must be first asked had I this knowledge There is not a particle of evidence that I had—And if this question must be answered in the Negative the accusation is not supported.—But I do not rest this part of my defence on this ground—

That the enemy did erect batteries opposite to Detroit and that I did not attempt to annoy them till they commenced their fire on the 15th are facts not to be disputed —I did not annoy them for the reason I have above mentioned, that I considered them as mere defensive works—But a desire to preserve my own ammunition was the principal reason for this conduct—I might have hindered the Enemy from progressing in the day time but in the night any annoyance I could have given them would have been ineffectual—Captain Dallaba has given a statement of the ammunition—Captain Dyson of the artillery supposes that it would not have lasted more than three or four days if we had commenced & continued firing—The fixed ammunition he says could not have lasted more than two days—Captain Bacon testifies that on the morning of the 16th he examined by my orders the Magazine and could find but one box of 24 lb. cartridges and that he reported to me that they were nearly

expended—The testimony of all the witnesses who have spoken shows that my mind was impressed with the necessity of sparing the ammunition and that this as well as the expectation that the enemy did not intend as long as I did not provoke offensive operations were the reasons why I did not cannonade the enemy while they were fortifying on the opposite shore—Major Trumble testifies that when he proposed to me to fire on a party of the enemy which made its appearance on the 14th of August at Sandwich—I answered that it would not do to expend the ammunition uselessly—Captain Bacon says that on the morning of the 16th he was directed by me to go to Captain Dyson at the Battery where he commanded and inform him that the 24 lb. ammunition was nearly exhausted and that he must not fire but when there was a prospect of his doing execution—

Another of the accusations which are assembled in this specification is that I omitted to fortify Spring Wells—I do not know why it might not as well have been alledged that I omitted to fortify any other position in the River Detroit—

It is not in proof that that spot was particulary adapted to a fortification—If it had been fortified the enemy would not probably have selected it as their place of debarkation almost any other spot within the same distance above or below the Fort was as well calculated to afford them a landing.—This specification also accuses me of having neglected to annoy the Enemy after he had landed at Spring Wells—Gentlemen the answer to this specification is embraced in the defence I have made as to the final surrender.—

I had made preparations for attacking the Troops were drawn out & formed in line of battle but before the enemy came up I determined to surrender.—My reasons for this measure I have already explained I shall not repeat them.—I will only beg you to observe that the reasons I have offered have not been suggested merely for the present occasion—Major Munson testifies that he saw me the day after the surrender—that I told him, I expected to be censured for what I had done but said "I have done what under all circumstances was most proper, and I have saved Detroit & the territory from the horrors of an Indian massacre."

But I am accused of having made the surrender in an unofficerlike manner, in having made it before the articles of capitulation were signed; in not stipulating for the honours of war; or for the security of the friendly Inhabitants of Canada who had taken protection from us.—Before I make observations on this subject, I beg leave to present to the Court collectedly the testimony which relates to it.—

Major Snelling testifies in substance that immediately after the second shot which did execution in the fort was fired, Captain Hull was sent across the River with a flag and that he (Major Snelling) was sent to order Colonel Findley into the Fort.—The witness having performed this duty went to one of the Batteries while there a British officer with a flag came to inquire what was the meaning of sending the Flag across the River, when General Brock was on the American side—Lieutenant Hunt then went with the information to me and returned with a sealed Letter and orders that he the Witness should carry it to General Brock. That the Witness met

General Brock at the head of his Troops about ¾ of a mile from the Fort: where they were not in sight from the Fort.—The witness having delivered the letter of which he was the bearer, General Brock asked the witness "*if he was authorized to agree on Terms?* The witness said not.—General Brock then asked two of his officers to go with the witness to the fort.—As they approached the Fort they were met by some persons who conducted them to a tent which had been erected by my orders where they were met by Colonels Miller & Brush, Commissioners appointed by me and the Capitulation was there signed by the Commissioners—The contents of the note the Witness says were no more than these words "Sir, I agree to surrender the town & Fort of Detroit." He would not undertake to say that the words he gave were the whole substance of the note but he believed they were.

Major Snelling further testifies that before the Capitulation was signed he saw me near the Marquee in conversation with Colonel Findley and with the British Officers, Colonel McDonald and Captain Glegg who were within the Marquee

The witness said he did not recollect that I took any part in drawing up the Capitulation—That I ordered off a number of our officers who were collected about the Marquee and among the rest the Witness—

In a subsequent part of his examination he says that before the capitulation was signed Colonel Findley's regiment was marched into the Fort which was very much crowded.—

Captain McCormick testifies that after Colonel Findley's Regiment had been ordered into the Fort, he met

Colonel Findley as he was going into the Fort. That they there saw me that I requested Colonel Findley to join Colonel Miller to treat with the Enemy and said that we could then get better terms than we should if we waited till they attempted to storm the Fort.—Captain McCormick further testifies that as he went out of he Fort he saw the British officers Colonel McDonald & Captain Gleig coming towards the Fort.—Some one said it was improper they should be permitted to come in and they went to the tent—Shortly after the British Officers with Colonel Miller and Colonel Brush came into the Fort and were there together in Dysons quarters where as he supposes the Capitulation was signed.—The witness further testifies that before this and at about the time the British Officers & Colonels Miller & Brush went into Dyson's quarters nearly all the Troops were marched into the Fort.—In his cross examination Captain McCormick says it might have been ten Minutes half an hour or more after the firing ceased before the Troops were ordered to march into the Fort.—That he himself did not come into the Fort till half an hour after the firing had ceased.—

Major Van Horne testifies that on the morning of the 16th Captain Hull came to the tent of Colonel Findley in which the witness also quartered & informed Colonel Findley, that it was my orders that his Regiment should move to & form on the south west of the Fort—

The witness then describes the position of Colonel Findley's Regiment in the line & the manner in which the whole line was formed. He then further testifies that after the line was formed and about an hour or half an hour before the flag was hoisted I came to the line;

That this was during the cannonade British officers were then seen passing to & from the Indians—That I appeared satisfied with the positions of the Troops—That the Witness said to me we shall be able to give a good account of them—About the time the firing ceased witness turned around & saw a flag hoisted in the Fort and at about the same time Captain Snelling came with orders from me to Colonel Findley to march his Regiment into the Fort and said that it was my directions that as the flag was out it should not be violated.—

The Witness further testifies that I remained at the line formed by the Troops about three or it might have been five minutes—That Colonel Findley expressed dissatisfaction with the order but said it must be obeyed and directed the Witness to march his Battalion towards the Fort which he did but halted near the Fort some minutes.—That finally he marched his men into the Fort and they there stacked their arms. That Colonel Findley did not come until some time afterwards

The Witness further testifies that when he got into the Fort he saw me but was not certain that I was there when he entered That some time after the Witness had been in the Fort—I addressed him and several other officers at the same time, and invited them into the room of one of the Officers—That I told them I had surrendered the Fort *and was about to make the terms.* that I asked if they thought of any thing as a condition, I should be glad to know what it was—that the witness did not go into the room—that when he first saw me I was on the steps going into one of the rooms—That some time after this Colonel McDonald & Captain Glegg rode up came into the Fort and went into the room where I

was—That the witness does not know whether I did or did not go into the Marquee before the British Officers came in—That our whole line, as he believes had marched into the Fort and stacked their arms That this had taken place before the British Officers came in.—

Major Jessup testifies that he had observed our Troops retreating and saw the flag flying. He met Colonel Findley who requested him to ride towards the Fort and learn the reason of the retreat—That he found me in the Fort and thought me very much frightened—That after a conversation with me of which he has repeated his own gallant expressions but unfortunately cannot recollect what I said he went out & met Colonel Findley and said to him all was lost. That when he saw me at the time the terms of Capitulation had been agreed upon that he met me in a piazza before Captain Dyson's quarters—that I was then perfectly composed—

He then relates a conversation with me which concluded with a request that he would continue to act in his station till the Troops were marched out of the Fort—That he consented to this and received from me or one of my aids a Copy of the Capitulation which I directed him to read to the Troops and that he did this when the Troops were marched out at about 12 O'Clock.—

The Witness further states that he thinks a detachment of the Enemy came into the Fort before the articles of Capitulation were signed—But that he is not certain whether the Enemys Troops marched in before the American Troops marched out—but knows that the American Troops did not march out till after the capitulaton was signed—

Captain Burton testifies that he knew when the Capitulation was agreed upon—That it was done in Captain Dyson's quarters where he saw me—General Brock & two or three British officers—That they were writing & preparing the articles of Capitulation—That he heard remarks which induced him to believe that the Articles of Capitulation were not agreed upon—That he could not say whether the American Troops were then in the Fort but there were at that time 150 British Troops standing with advanced arms in the Fort—The Enemy were at or about this time placing Guards in & about the Fort.—That the reason why he supposes that the articles were not at this time finally agreed upon was that he saw General Brock with a paper from which he struck out two or three lines which as he understood related to the Regular Troops returning home which General Brock said he would not agree to

That at about this time he saw one of the British Officers writing—Before this he had seen the British officers & American officers at the Marquee and that I also had been there—

That it was about three quarters of an hour after he saw the British officers going with me to the Marquee before he saw the British officers in Dyson's quarters.—On his cross examination by the Court Major Jessup says—when the terms of the Capitulation were discussing the American Troops were crowded in the Fort in the utmost disorder and the enemy were permitted to approach so near the Fort as to be able to take possession of the Batteries—

Captain Fuller testifies that soon after the white flag was hoisted he went to the Fort & there met Colonel

McDonald & Major Glieg [?]. That I was standing near the gate. one of the British officers said to me that they were sent by General Brock in consequence of seeing a flag hoisted to receive any communications—

That I replied that I should surrender and desired them to go to the Marquee where I would go or send to them—That Major Glegg requested the witness to go with him to the Marquee for fear our Militia might fire on him—That he went with him to the Marquee—They were furnished with pen, Ink & Paper by Major Snelling that soon after they got to the Marquee I Colonels Miller & Brush came that he staid near the Marquee about ten minutes and then went to the Fort leaving me at the Marquee. That when he returned to the Fort he found our troops were in & had stacked their arms that some time after he saw the British Officers, McDonald & Gleig [?] come out of Dyson's quarters one of them having a paper which he said had been signed by me & that he was going to take it to General Brock for his approbation and wished the Witness to go with him for the same purpose That he accompanied him to the Marquee.

That the Witness went & found the British Column led by Colonel Proctor about half a mile below the fort. That he left Colonel McDonald & returned to the Fort.—

Colonel Miller testifies that on the morning of the 16th I was in the Fort—that it was reported to me that the enemy were advancing and that part of the Michigan Militia had joined the enemy—That upon this I asked him if I had not better send out a flag he told me he did not know—I had better consult the Officers who were without the Fort that they had the best opportunity of Judging.—That I said there was no time for consulta-

tion—That I would send a flag and that I did so.—That some time after this, Colonel Findley's Regiment marched into the Garrison.—That I went to a tent & sent for him that when he approached the tent I was standing in the tent with my back towards him that he heard me say to the British officers in the tent, "I will surrender" —That I then requested him with Colonel Brush to assist in drawing up some articles of Capitulation—That he remained at the Tent lying on the ground in a violent fit of the fever & ague while Colonels Brush & McDonald were penning the articles—

The original articles of Capitulation were then shewn to the witness and he said he believed them to be those which he had signed but said he was strongly impressed with a belief that when they were read to him & he signed them they contained a provision that the Garrison should march out with the honours of war—

In his cross examination by the Court Colonel Miller states that according to his best recollection he went to the tent between ten & eleven o'clock in the morning of the 16th. That he remained about three quarters of an hour that after he had signed the Capitulation he went to the Fort and went to bed—There were then no British Troops in the Fort but he saw as he went in a Company of about 100 British soldiers standing near the Gate of the Fort—In a subsequent part of his cross examination he states that I told him I was willing that he should make a surrender the basis of a Treaty and that he must get the best terms he could—He further says that when I sent out the flag, I mentioned to him that I did it to gain time. That I expected to procure a cessation of hostilities and that I might in the mean time hear from

Colonels McArthur & Cass—Colonel Miller was called again a few days after his first examination and he then stated that after the first flag was sent out and before an answer was returned Colonel Brush came to me and having been informed that Knagg's men who had the advanced post below the Fort had deserted to the enemy Colonel Brush exclaimed that "By God" or that he believed by God his men would desert to a man.—

I believe may it please the Court, I have here collected all the testimony that is material whether it be for or against me which in any wise relates to the matter now under consideration.—I do not pretend that I have given the very words of the witnesses in all instances—But I have done so as nearly as my own recollection & the notes of my counsel would permit—If there be any errours or omissions they certainly cannot be intentional Becausé I know that the members of the Court will have recourse to their own minutes and to the record of the Judge Advocate, and if it should appear that I have in any respect wilfully perverted the testimony, it would be an artifice from which I would derive no benefit—

In reviewing the testimony the Court I think must at once perceive a strange variety in the statements of the different witnesses though the times at which the different transactions took place are all important hardly any two of the witnesses agree in this respect—

The court will recollect that there are three documents in evidence which appear to form the articles of Capitulation These are all dated on the 16th of August—one purporting to be the articles of Capitulation; the other purporting to be a supplement to the Articles and the third purporting to be an addition to the supplemental

articles There is also a fourth document being a letter directed to the commanding officer of the Rapids which purports to be an explanation of the articles of Capitulation—Before I make any observations on this testimony I will give the Court a relation of my conduct in respect to the surrender—And state the Motives which influenced me—If a departure from the forms, ceremonies & etiquette of modern warfare, where civilized men are the Belligerents will condemn me I must submit. —But I do persuade myself that this Court will consider my perculiar [sic] situation and the character of the enemy which was opposed to me; and that I will be thought excuseable if I permitted a precipitation to which some forms & pageantry were sacrificed, with a view to save from the cruelty of the Savages many brave men and many families of Parents & children—

As soon as I found that the enemy intended a serious attack upon Detroit I knew that sooner or later my army must fall. I knew that even victory would not save me and could be but à temporary advantage—the certain consequences of defeat I could not contemplate without horror—It presented a scene which I need not attempt to describe—It is obvious that it would have left our Savage enemies to indulge without restraint their passion for rapine & cruelty The small body of Regulars which I had with me I was obliged to keep in the Fort for its protection I had no other Troops, that understood the management of Cannon—with one third of the residue of my force absent and with nothing to rely upon out of the fort but untried & undisciplined militia, officered by men most of whom were in hostility to me and

had even conspired against me. What was I to expect from a contest?—

I determined at any rate that I ought if it were possible to ward off the attack and gain time till the detachment under Colonels McArthur & Cass who were my two senior officers, might return—

The Court will recollect that I had sent an express for them as soon as I received General Brock's summons on the fifteenth—After the line was formed on the 16th as appears by the testimony of Captain McCormick, Colonel Van Horne & Major Snelling I visited the Troops where they were drawn up I then went to the Fort in expectation of hearing of the absent detachment; but receiving no intelligence from them I determined to propose a cessation of hostilities to treat of a surrender—I accordingly sent a flag over the River & when the British officer came to enquire the meaning of that flag—I sent the note to General Brock of which Major Snelling speaks—That these were my views when I sent the flag appears by the testimony of Colonel Miller to whom I explained myself on the subject, I do not recollect what were the precise words of this note but I think it will appear very evident to the Court that the contents of it could not have been as Major Snelling has stated neither more nor less than an offer of unconditional surrender—For according to Major Snelling the first question General Brock put to him after he had read the note was to ask Major Snelling if he "was authorized to agree on terms"? No such question would have been asked if I had offered to surrender without terms.

As soon as I had determined to negotiate I also determined to change my positions for defence—I thought

it better to draw the Troops to the fort and if I made a resistance it was my opinion that I could do it to most advantage by manning the fort with a full complement and forming a line supported on the right by the fort and on the left by the Citadel & the Batteries on the bank of the river having in front a line of pickets which extended from the fort to the Citadel and which was intended to cover the communication between one & the other. With these views & intentions I ordered the Troops to the fort intending to post them from thence before the negociation should break off, if there should be no terms agreed upon—When these orders were given I had appointed Colonel's Brush & Miller to repair to a tent without the Fort and treat with the enemy At this moment I received the intelligence that the two companies mentioned by Major Anderson, Knagg's & Shover's had gone over to the enemy and heard from Colonel Brush, the declaration that by God every man of his regiment had or would desert—The consequences of such a defection immediately occurred to me—Colonel Brush's Troops had been posted to guard the upper part of the settlement If they made no resistance there was nothing to hinder the British & their Savages from landing above the town and while we should be engaged with the invaders from the South the Savages would be making indiscriminate slaughter of the Inhabitants, through the whole extent of the northern part of the settlement—From this moment I determined to surrender on the best terms I could obtain. I told Colonel Miller that this was my determination—I went to the tent Colonel Miller had not arrived there—I had mentioned to Colonel Brush and the British officers the terms I should insist

upon and concluded by saying "*I shall surrender*" meaning on the terms I had previously mentioned—This was the declaration Colonel Miller heard—After I had explained the terms I had expected I left the tent & returned to the fort—On my arrival there I found to my surprize that all the Troops had crowded into the Fort had stacked their arms and were in a state of entire insubordination. Let it be remembered that neither of these steps had been taken by my orders—I had ordered Colonel Findleys Regiment only into the Fort; and it is not proved, or pretended that I gave any orders for stacking the arms—I now became impatient to put the place under the protection of the British I knew that there were thousands of the Savages around us—every moment reports were brought to me of their depredations. and in the situation in which my troops then were I could afford no protection to the inhabitants—I was anxious that our enemies should have the command & government that they might be able to put a restraint on their Savage allies, which I had no power to do—An additional weight on my mind that had great influence on my conduct was what I considered might be the dangerous situation of the detachment under Colonels McArthur & Cass—

I thought it possible it might be at a distance and might be cut off—If we should unsuccessfully resist I was sure it would. In this state of things the articles of capitulation were brought to me from the tent signed & executed. I accepted them I gave a copy of them to Major Jessup as he has testified and he afterwards read them to the Troops when they marched out at 12 O'Clock —These must be considered as the Articles of Capitula-

tion and by these my conduct must be tested—for the two other documents, the one styled supplemental articles and the other in addition to the supplemental articles are rather to be considered as an agreement between myself and the enemies General than as parts of the Capitulation—I admit that when these were signed I had no power to resist, if he had not chosen to agree to them and therefore they are no more to be considered as a part of the capitulation than the letter which bears date the next day It was these Supplemental articles which were signed in Captain Dyson's quarters—and most of the witnesses who speak of what was done before or after the Capitulation was signed obviously speak with reference to the execution of these instruments—
God knows the articles are not what I would have wished to have had them—If I had been warring with civilized man, where the blood of combatants could only be shed I ought not and would not have accepted them—But when upon the consequences of refusing them depended the lives of so many innocent people I did not feel myself authorized to reject them Having put before the Court the testimony which relates to this specification and given my own account of the transactions to which it relates—I will again notice the accusations and make some few observations upon them—

The first accusation is that I surrendered before the capitulation was signed—This is certainly disproved—There was not an enemy in the fort before the capitulation was brought to me from the tent nor before I delivered a Copy of it to Major Jessup the testimony of Colonel Miller is conclusive upon this point—he says

there were no British Troops in the Fort when he brought me the Capitulation from the tent—

A second accusation is that I did not stipulate for the honours of war. Among the variety of circumstances in my situation which I had to deplore and which agitated my mind to a great degree There was none that excited my own feelings more than to find that tho' this provision had been inserted in the articles as originally drawn by the Commissioners it had been stricken out.— I thought of rejecting the articles on this account—I must have then opened a new negociation—I have already stated what appeared to me as the consequences of further delay—The Savages were unrestrained—I determined not to expose the lives of the Inhabitants to their fury for the sake of obtaining so useless a pageantry—

The articles are also condemned because they contained no stipulation for the security of the friendly Inhabitants of Canada. With respect to the people of Canada who had been friendly to us and who had remained in their own Country when we retreated, no stipulation in their favour was necessary—The British had offered full pardon to all their subjects who had shown any disaffection and when the capitulation was signed there were none in Canada who had not availed themselves of this offer—with respect to those who were with us the Capitulation does contain an article in their favour they are unquestionably included in the third article which provides that "private persons and property of *every description* shall be respected—" But Sir a stipulation in favour of Canadians who were with us at the time of the surrender was in fact entirely

a matter of supererogation because according to the best of my recollection there was but one person of that description with us at the time of the Capitulation and he is now an officer of rank in our Army.

The evidence that any stipulation for the security of the Canadians other than what the articles contained, was unnecessary is that it is the undoubted fact that from the time we retreated from Canada no individual has suffered in his person or property on account of any part he may have taken against his own Government or on account of any connexion which he may have had with our Army—The specification states other objections to the capitulation but as they are of an inferior nature and must be excusable if these I have noted are so—I shall not trouble the Court with any remarks upon them—

Something has been said in the course of the trial as to my having after the Capitulation consented to the surrender of some distant posts—It might be enough to say that there is no specification on this subject—But I will only observe that so far from this being a concession to the enemy it originated in my suggestion—I reflected that if they should hear of the capitulation before they were informed they were included in the surrender they might retreat if they should judge it in their power to do so—But if early intelligence of the surrender should not reach them they would be exposed to the whole Savage force of the Enemy and might be sacrificed unless they were protected by the capitulation. Much testimony has also been given in relation to the situation of the British Troops before the surrender and to shew that they were suffered to approach too near our works be-

fore the capitulation was signed—It would be easy to shew the strange contradiction of testimony on this point and to prove that such an accusation would be without foundation. But certainly the accusations against me and which I am obliged to answer are sufficiently numerous—The Court would hardly think me excuseable in trespassing on their patience to make a defence against accusations not preferred—I shall therefore say nothing further as to this suggestion than that a specification founded upon it is not to be found under any of the charges.

There is Gentlemen, one other charge which I have to answer. It is an accusation which has been most wounding to my feelings and the discussion of which is the most painful task I have yet had to perform. Not because I have any doubt but that I shall convince you, it is as much without foundation as any other, but because it imposes upon me the necessity of examining testimony, which no man however innocent he may be can repeat without disgust—

If in the embarrassing & difficult situations in which I was placed, during my late command, I have committed some errours surely what I have suffered by this prosecution and what I must now suffer in making this part of my defence, will be some atonement

For more than half a century I supported a character without reproach--My youth, was devoted to the service, of my Country—I fought her battles in that war which achieved her Liberty & Independence, and which was ended before many of you Gentlemen, who are my Judges were born. If upon any occasion a man may speak of his own merits it is at such a time as this and I hope I may

be permitted to present to you in very few words a narration of my life, while I was engaged in scenes which were calculated to prove a man's firmness & courage—I shall do it with the less reluctance because the testimony I have offered of the venerable men who served with me in the Revolutionary war, will vouch for all I have to say.

In the year 1775 at the age of about 21 years I was appointed a Captain in one of the Connecticut Regiments —During that Campaign & until March 1776 when the enemy evacuated Boston I served with the Army at Cambridge & Roxbury under the immediate command of General Washington. I was with that party of the army in March 1776 which took possession of Dorchester-heights, the movement which compelled the enemy to evacuate Boston—the next day the Regiment to which I belonged marched for New York. I was on Long Island when the Enemy landed & remained until the night the whole army retreated—I was in several small skirmishes both on Long Island and York Island before the army retired to the White Plains.—I then belonged to Colonel Charles Webb's Regiment of Connecticut.—

This Regiment was in the severest part of the action on Chatterdon's hill a little advanced of the White Plains a few days after the main body of the Army abandoned New York—This battle is memorable in the history of our Country and the Regiment to which I belonged received the particular thanks of General Washington in his public orders for its bravery and good conduct on the occasion—It was particularly distinguished from all the other Troops engaged in the action. I received a slight wound by a musket ball in my side but it did not

prevent me from remaining at the head of my company.—
I was in the battle at Trenton when the Hessians were taken in December 1776 and being one of the youngest Captains in the army was promoted by General Washington, the day after the battle to a Majority for my conduct on that occasion—The first of January 1777, I was in the battle of Princeton. In the Campaign of the same year the Regiment to which I belonged served in the Northern Army—I was early in the spring ordered to Ticonderoga, and commanded the Regiment (being the senior officer present) under General St Clair—and I was with that officer in his retreat from that post

After General St. Clair's army formed a junction with General Schuyler's army on the North River at Fort Edward, the Regiment to which I belonged was detached and marched to Fort Schuyler and relieved that post which was besieged by General St Leger.

On the retreat of General Schuyler's Army from Fort Edward I commanded the rear guard of the army and being two miles in the rear was attacked by a large body of British Troops & Indians at day light in the morning in which action were killed & wounded between thirty & forty of my Guard and I received the particular thanks of General Schuyler for my conduct on this occasion.—
I was in the two memorable battles on the 19th of September and the 7th of October on Bemis's heights against General Burgoyne's Army previous to its surrender—
In the action of the 19th September I commanded a detachment of 300 men, who fought the principal part of the after noon—And more than one half of them were killed & wounded—

On the 7th of October I likewise commanded a detachment from the Brigade which assisted in attacking the enemy on the left of our position defeated him, followed him to the right of his lines stormed his entrenchments and took & held possession of the right of his position which compelled him to retreat to Saratoga and their [sic] Capitulate—

After the memorable event of the Capitulation of General Burgoyne's Army, the Regiment to which I belonged was ordered to Pennsylvania to join the Army under the command of General Washington—I remained with the Army the Winter of 1777 at Valley forge and in the spring of 1778—when the British Army evacuated Philadelphia I was in the Battle of Monmouth.—

From December 1778, to May 1779. I commanded the American Posts in advance of the White Plains, near Kingsbridge during which time I had various skirmishes with the Enemy—In May 1779, the principal part of the British Army advanced up the North River to Verplank's & Stoney point And I was ordered to retreat before them to West Point.

I then joined the Light Infantry under the command of General Wayne and was in the Memorable attack on Stoney Point with a separate command of 400 Light Infantry.—

For my conduct on this occasion I received the particular thanks of General Wayne, General Washington & Congress.

In the Summer & Autumn of 1780 I commanded the advanced posts of the Army and in December of that year I commanded an expedition against the enemy stationed at Morrissina which was successful and for which

I received the thanks of General Washington in his General orders to the Army and likewise the thanks of Congress.—

General Washington in his orders I well remember made use of these words "He thanked me for my judicious arrangements in the plan of operation and for my intrepidity & valour in the execution"

From the conclusion of the Revolutionary War, I have lived with the respect of my Countrymen and have enjoyed repeated marks of their confidence in the offices which have been bestowed upon me.—When I found that the independence for which I had so often fought was assailed; that again my Country must appeal to arms, to avenge her wrongs, and to protect her rights—I felt that I might yet do her some service.—For tho' many years had passed since I had fought under her standard, and tho' my own arm might not have had its wonted strength yet my spirit was unbroken, and my devotion to her unimpaired.—I thought in the field where there could be but few who had any Military experience, what I had learned in the most active scenes of a seven years war, might be useful. I fondly hoped that in my age, as well as in my Youth I might render services that should deserve the gratitude of my Country. That if I fell by the sword of her enemies my grave would be moistened with the tears of my Countrymen—that my descendants would be proud of my name & fame:—But how vain is anticipation!—I am now accused of crimes which would blast my former honors and transmit my memory with Infamy to posterity. And in that hideous Catalogue, there is none from the imputation of which my nature and my feelings have more recoiled, than from

that of cowardice to which I am to answer I shall confine myself under this charge to the specifications, or to such part of the specifications as relate to my personal deportment.

Almost every [act of] Omission [or of] Commission during the campaign which it has been thought proper to censure, have been assembled under this charge and they have all been imputed to cowardice. But as most of the acts have been specified in support of other charges I shall not again notice them, but confine myself to the allegation that I shewed personal fear and a want of courage.—

However painful the recapitulation of the testimony on this point must be to me. It is so necessary that it should be brot together, that you may have it before you in one view that I shall go through the disagreeable task of repeating it—

The first witness in point of fact as well as importance is Major Snelling—he was a Captain when he joined the Army at Urbanna but is now a Colonel—

He testifies as follows "During the cannonade I frequently saw the General. I once saw him standing. He might have risen twice. Most of the time he was sitting on an old Tent under the curtain of the Fort opposite the enemy's Batteries—

I have been taught to believe that there are certain human passions which are indicated by appearances, and the appearances of General Hull according to my mind, indicated fear."—

"The reasons that induced me to draw that conclusion were—That the General selected the safest place in the Fort for his seat. His voice trembled when he spoke.

He apparently unconsciously filled his mouth with Tobacco so that his cheeks were extended by it. The saliva ran from his mouth on his neckcloth & clothes. He often rubbed his face with his hands and distributed the Tobacco juice about his face—"

He further testified on his cross examination that when he returned from Spring Wells at the dawn of day on the morning of the 16th He went into the fort to make his report to General Hull but could not find him nor find any one who knew where he was.—

He said he did not know if General Hull was in the Fort at the time the Officers were killed—He saw him immediately afterwards. After the men were killed it might have been 15 or 20 minutes before he saw Captain Hull with the white flag. It might have been an hour but he did not think it was—

The witness could not say that he saw General Hull in the situation he has described between the time the men were killed and the sending the Flag by Captain Hull. He recollects that at the time Capt Hull was fixing the flag General Hull was standing and was in the situation he has described—General Hull was out of the Fort early that morning but the Witness does not know where he was—At the time the Enemy was crossing the General was standing on the parade.

I wish the Court to notice the great attention, which Major Snelling paid, to be particular in very minute circumstances, in giving his testimony, not only as to the positions, in which he saw me but when his examination was read over to him and he found that as it stood it represented that he had said that I had distributed the tobacco over my face, he desired that it might be correct-

ed so as to state that what he had said, it was confined to the lower part of my face—

Captain McCormick testifies, as follows "I was not present when Colonel Findley recevied orders to march into the fort. I joined him as he was going into the fort. he told me of the order and said he would not obey it, but would go into the fort himself and directed me to form the Regiment—The Colonel then came back so near to me as to tell me to let the Companies march up and I did so"—The Witness then relates what passed between Colonel Findley & myself, and proceeds as follows—

"The general appears very much agitated. He appeared to be under as much alarm as I ever saw a person. He had been chewing Tobacco and the lower part of his face and his vest were covered with it"—

On his cross examination he testifies that it might have been ten minutes, or half an hour or more after the firing ceased before the troops were ordered to march into the fort. That it was at least half an hour after the firing before the witness went into the Fort. That he saw me once that morning out of the Fort, and thinks I was near where Colo. Findleys Regiment was forming the line of battle behind the picket fence—Colonel Van Horne who was a Major of Colonel Finleys Corps testifies that after Colonel Findleys Regiment was formed on the morning of the 16th of August, and about an hour or half an hour before the Flag was hoisted, I was at the line. That this was during the Cannonade—That at about the time the firing ceased Captain Snelling came with orders that Colonel Findley should return with his Regiment to the Fort. The cannonade had then ceased

—The witness turned round & saw the Flag hoisted on the Fort. The witness further stated that he then went into the Fort, with his battallion and after he got in he saw me, but is not certain whether I was there when he entered—The witness then proceeded as follows "When I first saw General Hull he was on the steps going into one of the rooms—His face was discoloured with tobacco juice It was over the lower part of his face and a spot was over his eye. I thought he was under the influence of fear. I had no doubt of it"—

On his cross examination he says that he saw me on the night of the 15th and as he thinks about Midnight and before the cannonading had ceased at the place where Colonel Findleys Regiment was formed that night.

He saw me the next morning out of the Fort at Colonel Findleys quarters and again at the line of Battle—When the witness was asked whether care & anxiety might not have produced the appearance he described he answered that care & anxiety might have added to those appearances but upon comparing faces he thought mine had the indications of fear—Captain Baker testifies as follows "I saw General Hull on the morning of the 16th. he appeared to be embarrassed, and at a loss how to act. I had but one opinion which was that he was under the influence of personal fear. I could not account for the surrender in any other way"—On his cross examination he said, "On the morning of the 16th during the cannonade, I saw the General in the Fort, sometimes sitting, sometimes walking & sometimes standing"—

Lieutenant Stansbury testifies that on the night of the 15th of August he found me at about eleven o'clock at night laying on the piazza of the Barracks in the Fort

with my Boots & clothes on. That in the morning when he awoke at Day break I was not there. I saw the General says he on a tolerably safe place as to his being afraid I cannot say whether he was or not. I saw the general on the parade ground. I did not see any necessity for his exposing himself more than he did''—

Major Jessup testifies that on the 15th after the cannonade commenced, he in company with Mr Dugan met me on horseback in the street near the second battery. He says ''The General appeared to be agitated, either Mr Dugan or myself observed the General was frightened. one of us said—we must cheer him up. We approached him spoke to him he appeared pale & confused immediately dismounted & led his horse towards the Fort''—

''I did not see General Hull till about break of day on the morning of the 16th when the General came to my tent & directed me to write an order for the return of Colonels Cass & McArthur''—

The witness further testifies that shortly after the Enemy commenced their fire. That at the request of Colonel Findley he went to me to have an explanation of an order which had been delivered by my aid de camp —That he found me and received directions from me for forming the line of Battle.

That while he was attempting to collect some Dragoons of which I had directed him to take the command he saw that our line was breaking & retreating towards the fort. He then looked towards the Fort & saw the white flag flying from it. That at the request of Colonel Findley he then went to the Fort: The witness then proceeds as follows ''I found the General in the Fort, I thought

him very much frightened, when I met him I enquired of him if it were possible we were about to surrender: He said something about terms & something about the enemies force which I do not recollect; His voice at that time was tremulous. I observed we could at least hold out till joined by Colonels Cass & McArthur. He replied my God what shall I do with these Women and children."—The witness then states that he left the Fort, went to Colo. Findley and did not see me till Terms of Capitulation had been agreed upon. That then I was perfectly composed. The Witness also testifies as follows "When I came to report to the General after recconnoitring the enemy, I found him on the side of the Fort next the enemy completely sheltered sitting on a tent beside a bed. At the same time I reported that our Guard the most advanced towards the enemy had surrendered. The General said that Colo. Brush had reported to him that his men were leaving him. After this when I met the General in the Fort and after the flag was hoisted he exclaimed that Four men had been killed by one shot. He appeared so alarmed as not to know what he was doing."

The Witness then describes my appearance at that time nearly in the words which had been used by other witnesses—

The Witness on a subsequent part of his examination stated that at the moment when he was in conversation with me on the evening of the 15th near the second battery a shot struck a stone house near me. That I appeared much agitated, dismounted my horse and walked off without making him a reply—Whenever I saw the General" says the witness, "before the capitulation was

signed he appeared agitated afterwards entirely composed. Whether the agitation proceeded from the novelty of his situation or fear I cannot say but I believe the latter if not both—"

Captain Eastman testifies as follows "On the evening of the 15th a shell appeared to be coming into the Fort. General Hull ran towards the north west Bastion apparently to avoid it and to get under cover of the Platform. The General appeared alarmed & frightened and I also observed [it] to my companions at the time—"

Lieutenant Philips testifies as follows "I saw General Hull on the Morning of the 16th most part of the time during the Cannonade he was sitting with his back to the parapet next the Enemy. He was sitting there with a number of Gentlemen. I recollect one Gentleman & one Lady near to him. He appeared to me under the influence of fear. he appeared very much agitated—I think Doctor Cunningham was the Gentleman that was with him. There might have been other Officers with him but I do not recollect."

Colonel Miller testifies as follows "I did not discover any agitation in the General on the 15th—On the 16th he did appear much agitated—He was in the Fort he was sometimes sitting sometimes standing and sometimes walking—Whether his agitation proceeded from anxiety on account of the responsibility he was taking or from personal alarms I cannot say—After the surrender he told me he was afraid if he had fought the Enemy they would have taken advantage of that part of his proclamation which delared that no white man taken fighting with an Indian should be spared—

On his cross examination Colonel Miller said—"I saw no act of the General's on the morning of the 16th which I can say might not have proceeded from the fatigue & responsibility he was under—"

I put to Colonel Miller the following question Can you mention any act of mine on the 16th which you did then or do now impute to personal fear?

To this the witness answered "Yes I did think such an immediate surrender must have proceeded from your fears—"

To the following question—Did you see me while I was in the Fort in any place or situation unfit for a commanding officer?

The colonel answered "I can describe to the Court where the General was and the Court can judge"—

He was generally near the easterly Parapet of the Fort. I was there part of the time myself—The General leaned down The whole easterly side of the Fort was as safe as the spot where the General was for the most part of the time—The General's station was the most convenient to receive communications from without the Fort."—

"Colonel Miller upon a re-examination further testifies that he had frequently observed a habit which I had when I was much engaged, of chewing tobacco to excess and taking it from my mouth with my fingers & rolling it in my fingers and putting it in my mouth again, and rolling it from my mouth to my fingers alternately

That he observed more of this habit on the 16th than usual, and thought the addition might be owing to want of rest, from fatigue.—

Major Wheeler says my appearance induced him to think I was under the influence of personal fear.—

Lieutenant Peckham testifies that he saw me on the 16th of August and says I had no doubt but that the General was under the influence of personal fear, from his embarrassment as he sat still & gave no orders.—

Major Munson testifies that he saw me on the 15th of August and saw me again on the 16th after the capitulation was settled—He adds "The Generals situation was critical. If he had had any feelings he must have had great care & anxiety. I saw nothing which might not have been accounted for without resorting to the impression of personal fear."

On his cross examination by the Court this Witness says "It was ten or fifteen Minutes after the Officers were killed that he saw me sitting in one of the Officers Quarters.—But does not recollect that it was during the cannonade either on the 15th or 16th that he saw me—

Captain Maxwell testifies that he served in the Revolutionary War—Was engaged in the affair at Brownstown, under Colonel Miller, which made the twenty third battle in which he had fought.

That after the cannonading commenced on the 15th he saw me on horseback at one of the batteries.—

That I had a conversation with the officer commanding at the time the balls were passing & repassing—That he took notice of my countenance and that I appeared firm collected & cool. That I sat four or five minutes on my horse & rode off again.

That he did not see me on the 16th. That at the time the Army was retreating from Sandwich, there was a clamour that I was intimidated and that was the reason

why on the evening of the 16th he particularly observed my countenance.—

General Taylor testifies, That he saw me several times on the evening of the 15th during the Cannonade.—That there was no impression made on his mind of my being under personal fear on that day or evening—That I appeared to be thoughtful & very low spirited—That he heard no indication of inspiriting the men. That my countenance was dull—That he saw me near the gate way and that I ordered Colonel Findley to move from the upper to the lower side of the Fort without any specific orders how to form.—Early on the 16th information came that the Enemy were preparing to cross and no orders were given to resist them—That my appearance displayed more of the marks of tobacco than he had generally seen in a neat man—that his impression was that I was under the influence of personal fear. That he did not see me again till the flag was hoisted—that when he saw me near the gate on the 16th he saw many officers with me and among the rest Captain Snelling—that he did not consider being there as shrinking from danger—

Captain Bacon testifies, That he saw me in the Fort very frequently on the 15th & 16th.—That on the 16th he saw me with Dr. Cunningham and his wife sitting on some planks—that he also saw some other persons there some of whom he thinks were officers.—

That during the Cannonade he saw me on the parapet of The Fort once on the evening of the 15th and once on the 16th—that he saw me in different places about the Garrison during the cannonade.—

That I seemed engaged as usual, but agitated, on the Morning of the 16th more than common—that he did not

know the cause—that he had no suspicion that it was personal fear, neither did he hear such a suspicion expressed by any of the officers—that after the shot came in which did execution the Officers & Men very Generally were on the Eastern side of the Fort under the protection of the Parapet next the Enemy—

Judge Witherill testifies that he saw me on the 15th, during the cannonade near one of our batteries—when from all he saw I was cool and collected—

I believe Gentlemen I have now collected & presented to you in connection every syllable of the testimony which has been offered in support of the specifications under this charge which relates to my personal appearance & deportment.—Such parts of the testimony as have the most bearing I have endeavored to repeat in the Witnesses own words and have done it with as much accuracy as the notes taken by my Counsel would permit—

Before Gentlemen I proceed further on the examination of this testimony allow me to lay before you an extract from an Author of great respectability containing rules not inapplicable to the present occasion by which the credibility of Witnesses ought to be tested—

"A witness" says Mr Tyler in his Essay on Military Law "who amplifies his testimony unnecessarily enlarging upon circumstances unfavorable to a party—who seems to be gratified by the opportunity of furnishing condemnatory evidence or manifestly betrays passion or prejudice in the substance of his testimony or in the manner of delivering it is to be listened to with suspicion of his veracity"—If a witness the author adds "takes upon himself to remember with the greatest minuteness all the circumstances of a transaction long since past

and which are of a frivolous nature and not likely to dwell on the Memory, his testimony is thereby rendered very suspicious''—

I ask the members to test the testimony which has been given against me by these rules. Were there not many of the Witnesses who amplified their testimony & unnecessarily enlarged upon circumstances unfavorable to me, who seemed to be gratified by the opportunity of furnishing condemnatory evidence?—

I appeal to the Court to judge of the manner in which the testimony of some of the witnesses was delivered and whether they did not betray a warmth that could not leave them free from a suspicion of strong prejudice or bias?—

Major Snelling has certainly taken upon himself to remember with the greatest minuteness circumstances of a frivolous nature—

He remembered that my cheeks were swelled with the Tobacco I put in my mouth—

He remembered that my neck cloth & vest were soiled —and the tobacco was distributed about my face. And when his examination was read over to him, his recollection was so extremely accurate as to the most minute circumstance that he insisted upon what had been written to be so corrected as to read that it was the lower part of my face which was soiled—tho' on this particular he is contradicted by Colonel Van Horne who it appears was no less observing of minute circumstances and whose memory is not less tenacious of them—Colonel Van Horn recollects and has been very particular in stating that there was a mark made by the tobacco over one of my eyes—he was so very minute as to observe that it was

over my left eye—though I believe it is not so recorded in his testimony—

Major Snelling's correction with respect to the situation of the Tobacco on my face will not appear in the record of his testimony. But it will be brought to the remembrance of the Court by my reminding them that when Major Snelling proposed the alteration in the record so as to state that he meant to have spoken only of the lower part of my face; I objected to its being altered on the minutes and wished that it might appear from the record of the evidence that this was a correction of his.

But Gentlemen the opinion of Major Snelling that I was under the influence of personal fear as well as the same opinion of other Witnesses who have very nearly followed his words in their description is formed as they avow from my appearance and from my situation & conduct in the Fort.—

A correct & certain judgment of the emotions of the mind from indications of the countenance, or from mere personal appearances, can hardly ever be formed—and it must be infinitely difficult to do so when fatigue, anxiety and a great responsibility may all at the same time be producing their effect.—

Major Snelling, tho' a very young Gentleman. It is to be presumed has great acquirements and it would seem from his testimony that the human passions have been the objects of his study. He introduces his testimony on this point with these words "I have been taught to believe that there are certain human passions which are indicated by appearances & the appearance of General Hull in my mind indicated fear"——

I hope that these professions of Major Snelling will not give his opinion an undue weight because he has not told us in what school he acquired his science in physiognimy. —Nor has he given us the rules by which when the mind may be under various excitements he can distinguish the appearances which will indicate the prevalence of one over the other.—

Major Snelling I have no doubt when he gains more age & experience will find that the indications of appearances in respect to the human mind are fallacious.— His own case may afford an evidence of it. I myself and many who heard his testimony and that of many other of the Witnesses & marked the manner of it— thought that they manifested great passion & prejudice against me—that they seemed gratified with the opportunity of furnishing condemnatory evidence—These appearances may have been fallacious, but if they were so, it is strong evidence that the most erroneous conclusions may be drawn from expressions of countenance, tone of voice, and eagerness of manner—

I beg it may be observed, that most of the witnesses except Major Snelling; who have given their testimony on this point, did not see me in the Fort, till after the Flag was hoisted when there was of course a cessation of hostilities nor till after I returned from the tent.

The witnesses have all endeavored to impress on the minds of the Court that I intended in all events to make an unconditional surrender. If this were the case where was the occasion for personal fear after I had invited by the flag, a negociation and had stopped the enemies fire —Major Jessup says that when he saw me before the capitulation was signed, I appeared greatly agitated, but

that afterwards I was entirely composed—And yet as Major Jessup did not see me in the Fort on the 16th till after the negociation was commenced there was no more ground for agitation from personal fear when he saw me on that day previously to the capitulation than there was after that event

There is a part of Major Jessups testimony which is certainly worthy of remark. His power of judging of the human passions from appearances is even superior to Major Snellings, because from his testimony it seems he can perceive the appearances when the object is at some distance—He states that when he & Mr Dugan saw me on horseback on the 15th I appeared to be frightened One of them said we must cheer him up—We then approached him says the Witness & spoke to him he appeared pale &c—So that they had according to this testimony, perceived that I was frightened while I was on horseback in the face of the Enemies fire and before they had approached me or spoke to me.—

I do not deny that on the morning of the sixteenth I was greatly agitated, my body was worn with fatigue and my mind was filled with the deepest anxiety. On the one hand I well knew the consequences of a surrender I knew how unfortunate it was for my Country that I should be obliged to yield—I saw the consequences to myself, I knew that the disappointment of the high expectations which had been raised would be charged to me and that all the faults of others to which in fact the failure of the expedition was owing would be laid at my door—I saw too, what was intended to be the effect of the opposition of my Officers to a measure they knew I must or would pursue—In proportion as they found me decid-

ed on this final step, they became insolent in their opposition, and were most so when it was ascertained that they would not meet the Enemy and could not be punished by me—They foresaw that great reputation was to be purchased at so cheap a rate as appearing highly averse to the surrender, and afterwards publishing to the world all they said & did as evidence of my criminality and their own heroism—

While all these considerations enlisted every private feeling against the surrender my mind was agitated by the opposite demands of duty—the dreadful consequence of unsuccessful resistance or indeed of any thing less than a most decisive victory filled my thoughts. In the midst of a people among whom I had lived so long as to be known to almost every inhabitant, all of whom looked to me for protection and many of whom had sought safety in the Fort: I could not reflect on the horrors of a general massacre which would have been the consequences of a defeat without emotion. He who in such a situation could have been perfectly tranquil whose appearances should have discovered no agitation must have been either less or more than man. He must have been denied the sensibilities common to our nature or been endowed with faculties more than human—

When the Court considers my situation, how many causes there were to excite strong emotion, will they believe that the witnesses who have testified on this point were capable of such discrimination, as would enable them to ascertain that the appearances which they have described, proceeded from personal fear? Major Snelling professed to have been instructed in this branch of science, but Captain McCormick who was not in the Fort

till after Findley's Regiment marched in made no such pretensions; he appeared to found his Judgement on his natural instinct and indeed he did right to make a claim which was out of the first stage of civilization to which rank notwithstanding his tawdry Regimentals it was evident, he belonged—

Several of the Witnesses have given their opinion on this subject, with less confidence; and some qualifications —Colonel Van Horn has admitted that *care,* and *anxiety,* might have added to the appearances which he described —His belief, however, as to what related to personal fear, he says, he formed from a comparison of faces, by which he judged that mine indicated fear—

I believe, Sir, that in the comparison of contenances, when I was surrounded by my officers at the time of the surrender, a vast difference might have been observed between the expression of many of theirs and mine—If my countenance expressed what I felt, it must have shewn traces of painful anxiety, by which I had been oppressed, and marks of the deepest regret, for the measures I had been obliged to pursue; while other faces might perhaps have beamed with the exultation, which the minds of some can feel, when they look upon what they may think a fallen man.

Possibly, there may have been around me, those who felt, and whose countenances expressed a joy, that, by the capitulation, they had purchased personal security, and avoided a bloody contest, at the expence, as they supposed, of my character and honour—

General Taylor also concluded from my appearance, that I was under the influence of personal fear—He gives you the grounds on which he drew his conclusion

—they are that I appeared thoughtful and very low spirited—that my countenance was dull, and that he saw about me, more of the marks of tobacco than was consistent with neatness—Are these grounds which will warrant a conclusion that is to affect the life of a man?—As to what has been said on this disgusting subject of the tobacco, I will dismiss it as to all the witnesses, with a reference to the testimony of Colonel Miller, who proves that I had a habit, which might have produced all the appearances, which, the witnesses say my chewing had produced—It is known that where there is a habit of using tobacco, it is commonly (unconsciously) taken to excess, whenever the mind is much occupied—Even *the excitement,* that some of the witnesses who use tobacco, felt while they were under examination, deluged this floor with their expectorations—

Major Munson saw me in the Fort fifteen minutes after the officers were killed—He does not recollect that the cannonade then continued. But I beg the Court to remark, that he speaks of a time, to which the testimony of many of the officers, who have spoken of my personal appearance, must refer—He says he saw nothing which might not have been accounted for, without resorting to the supposition of personal fear.

Captain Maxwell did not see me on the 16th, but on the 15th he saw me in a situation where I was exposed to the fire of the Enemy. He says that I was collected and cool. He informs you why he was induced to notice my appearance, and his testimony is of some importance, because it shews, that, as early as the retreat from Canada, my officers had begun to propagate imputations on my courage;—and because his testimony must relate to

the same time when Major Jessup says, he saw me on horseback, and observed such strong indications of fear —If, Sir, the opinions of these two witnesses are in opposition, the Court must determine, whether they will rely on the veteran, who has been twenty three times engaged with the enemies of his Country, or the young gentleman, who, at the time he speaks of, was about 25 years of age, and who knew no more of battles than what he had heard or learned from books. The testimony of Judge Witherell, who was a revolutionary officer, who also saw me on the evening of the 15th is likewise in opposition to the testimony of Major Jessup.—

Captain Bacon says, I was much agitated on the morning of the 16th but that he had no suspicion it was personal fear, neither did he hear such a suspicion expressed by any of the officers—

The deposition of Major Anderson, I have not been able to procure in time to submit to my Counsel, previously to my defence being closed.—It is very important, not only as it respects the point now under consideration; but the Court will find that there is a great variation between his testimony and that of General McArthur, in relation to the fortification at Sandwich. But, as I would not ask another postponement of the Court, for the sake of making any further observations on the testimony of Major Anderson, I must rely upon the Court to examine his deposition, and to give his testimony its due weight.—

There are some of the witnesses who have give a mere naked opinion, that I was under the influence of personal fear, without assigning any reasons for their opinion,

whose testimony I shall not notice. It is impossible it can have any influence in the minds of the Court—

Major Jessup said, that whether the agitation which he described, proceeded from the novelty of my situation, or fear, he could not say, but he believed, the latter, if not both—Captain Baker said he was of opinion that I was under the influence of fear, as he could not account for the surrender in any other way. This explanation of Captain Baker may afford a key to much of the testimony on this point.—He, like many other of the officers, thought the surrender unnecessary. They did not concern themselves with considerations of what might be the consequences of resistance—They therefore saw no other motive for the step, I had taken, than my own fears—They, therefore, when questioned on this point, said, they thought I was under the influence of personal fear, because I surrendered.

I beg the Court to note, that Colonel Miller's answer to the Interrogatory put to him on this subject, is to the same effect, altho' he was stationed in the Fort, and I had been in his sight, whenever I was in the fortress, from the commencement of the cannonade, till the surrender—He says, he saw no conduct of mine, which might not have proceeded from fatigue, and the responsibility of my situation, and that he could mention no act of mine, which he did then or does now impute to personl fear, but the surrender; and yet Colonel Miller had better opportunities of observing me, than any other witness—He was an older and more experienced soldier, than any who have given their testimony; many of whom heard the report of an Enemy's gun for the first, at the time to which their testimony relates—

If, Gentlemen, your decision upon this point, could rest upon the weight of the opinions given by the witnesses called by the Judge Advocate, the preponderance would be in my favor—The opinions of Colonel Miller, he having been placed in a situation which gave him such superior advantages for continual, deliberate observation, must deserve more respect, than the testimony of all the inexperienced and young men, who only saw me occasionally on the morning of the 16th, and who have attempted to support this charge by their opinions—

So far as any of the Witnesses have founded their opinion that I was under the influence of personal fear, upon the act of surrender, as is the case with Colonel Miller and Captain Baker, and others, their testimony can have no weight—The Court have the same opportunity of drawing a conclusion from that fact, that they had —I have endeavoured to satisfy the Court that, that act was justifiable, or at least that I had strong reasons for thinking it so, and if this were the case, it cannot be made the ground of condemnation, because Witnesses may have made it the foundation of their opinions of my want of courage.

But, Gentlemen, there is no example of the opinion of witnesses on this subject, ever having been received as evidence on which to ground a conviction—

Expressions of the human countenance, and the manners of men, are but fallible indications of the workings of the human mind.—The difference in appearances, produced by the excitements of different passions, are too subtle to admit of observations from which any conclusions may be drawn—Much depends upon constitu-

tion, and often much upon the temporary physical condition of the body—

A man worn with fatigue of body, or mind and pressed with a thousand dreadful anxieties, may, tho' on the point of inevitable destruction, forget his own fate, and be only moved by the condition of those around him; while the superficial observer would impute his agitation to the dread of death. The uneducated spectator, who has not been taught, as Major Snelling has been, the indications of human passions, would most probably see in the countenance and manner of the Laocoon, only expressions of terror and bodily pain; and would not understand that the Artist has expressed in the countenance and convulsive agitation of a dying Father, agony of mind, excited by the torture of his expiring children—

There never has been, and in justice, never can be a conviction, under this charge of cowardice, but where a want of courage is indicated, by the *omisson,* or *commission* of some act, in violation of the duty of the person, against whom the charge is made.

I shall conclude my observations upon that part of the evidence which relates to my personal appearance, with some extracts from an English Historian, who gives an account of the trial of Lord George Sackville, who was tried for misconduct at the battle of Minden.—Doctor Smollet, having stated, that some testimony was given to prove, that when certain orders were delivered to Lord George, he was alarmed in a very great degree; and seemed in the utmost confusion; subjoins remarks, from which the following are extracts—

"The candid reader will of himself determine, whether a man's *heart* is to be judged by any *change* of his *com-*

plexion, granting such a change to have happened." "Whether it was likely, that an officer, who had been more than once in actual service, and behaved without reproach, so as to attain an eminent rank in the Army, should exhibit symptoms of fear or confusion, when in reality there was no appearance of danger"?—"With respect to the imputation of cowardice, levelled at Lord George, by the unthinking multitude, and circulated with such industry & clamor, we ought to consider it as a mob accusation; which the bravest of men, even the great Duke of Marlborough could not escape.—We ought to view it as a dangerous suspicion, which strikes at the root of character, and may blast that honor in a moment, which the soldier has acquired in a long course of painful services, and at the continual hazard of his life. We ought to distrust it as a malignant charge, altogether inconsistent with the former conduct of the person accused."

The testimony of some of the Witnesses, appears to have been intended to prove, that I manifested a want of courage, by certain acts, during the cannonade, as well on the 15th as on the 16th. These are, that on the 15th, I dismounted & walked towards the Fort, when a shot struck a house near me. That I avoided a shell, which appeared to be coming into the Fort, and that I remained in the Fort, in a place of security, during the cannonade—

It does appear to me, Gentlemen, that if all these facts were exactly as the Witnesses could wish them to appear, they would not support any charge—If I found myself unnecessarily exposed to the shot of the Enemy, by being on horseback, was it not my duty to dismount? Is it to be considered a dereliction of duty in an officer, to

avoid the explosion of a shell? or is it unjustifiable in a Commander, when in a fortress that is bombarded, to put himself in a place of security, provided he be in such situation as that he may give his orders & perform the necessary duty of his station? Judging from what I have seen of service, with the bravest men our Country ever produced, I may venture to say that the Court would answer these questions in the negative—But yet I must ask the patience of the Court, while I give the testimony which has been offered on one of these points, (that is to say) my remaining in the Fort, and my situation there, a slight examination. The others I do not think worthy my attention.

Major Snelling went into the Fort, when he returned on the morning of the 16th from Spring Wells. He was roused from a repose, after having been at a post all night, by the commencement of the cannonade. He remained there till after the flag went out, when he was sent with orders to Col. Findley's Regiment—He appears to have returned to the Fort again, about the time that the British officers went into Capt Dyson's quarters; In short, Major Snelling was in the Fort, according to his account, during the whole time of the cannonade on the 16th, and until the British troops marched in, with the exception of a very short interval, between the sending of the flag, and the final surrender. Now, during the time of the cannonade, Major Snelling saw me standing but once. His memory is so extremely tenacious of the minutest circumstances, even of a frivolous nature, that he will only admit, as a possibility, that I might have risen twice—The words of Major Snelling are,

"During the cannonade, I frequently saw the General; I once saw him standing—He might have risen twice; most of the time he was sitting on an old tent, under the curtain of the Fort, opposite the Enemy's batteries."

Whether I was sitting or standing in the situation, which Major Snelling describes, is immaterial—I should have been equally safe in either position—It is therefore extraordinary, that so unimportant a circumstance should have made such a lasting impression on his mind.

The testimony, however, of the other Witnesses, called by the Judge Advocate, does not appear to correspond with the recollection of Major Snelling. General Taylor's testimony is certainly worthy of remark—It appears that, tho' Major Snelling thought that my taking a position, under cover of the parapet of the Fort, during the cannonade, was evidence of cowardice, yet *Major Snelling himself,* it seems, thought he was at liberty to avail himself of the very same protection—General Taylor says, he saw Major Snelling, as well as many other of the officers, in the same situation that I generally occupied, during the firing when I was in the Fort.—Captain Baker says,

"On the morning of the 16th during the cannonade, I saw the General in the Fort, sometimes sitting, sometimes walking, and sometimes standing."

Colonel Miller also states that I was sometimes sitting, sometimes standing and sometimes walking.

Indeed there could have been no reason for my remaining precisely in one situation, during the Cannonade, if I had been actuated by an undue regard to personal safety—For it appears that the whole eastern side of the Fort, was as secure in one part as another. If there

were any reasons for giving preference to the spot where the witnesses say, I was sitting, it is that it was near the Gate, a situation where I could easily be found, and where it was most convenient, as Colonel Miller has testified, to receive reports, and to give my orders—

From this post, I had the whole interior of the Fort, under my view, and could communicate my orders to any part. Was I not then, in a proper situation for a Commander? The Court will recollect that Colonel Miller states, that he himself was sometimes with me, while I was in the place the Witnesses have described—And the fact is, that every officer in the Fort placed himself under the protection of the eastern parapet, when his duty did not require that he should be in a more exposed situation. But it has been attempted to prove that I remained in the Fort, and took no measures, and issued no orders for a disposition of the troops, after the cannonade commenced. Major Jessup states, that shortly after the answer had been returned to the British summons on the 15th, he met me on horseback, and that I then gave him directions for the disposition which was to be made of the troops, for the defence of the town—It is also proved by the testimony of Major Jessup, that in the evening of the 15th I was on horseback, visiting the batteries, while the cannonade continued—

Major Munson met me on the same evening, on horseback, when I was visiting the posts—Major Jessup said he met me on the night of the 15th at about midnight at the position which Colonel Findly's Corps had taken up, for the night; I was also, as he testifies, at his quarters, about day break on the morning of the 16th, while he was writing by candle-light, and gave him directions to

dispatch an order for Colonels McArthur and Cass—And Captain McCormack testifies that he saw me on horseback, at the line on which the troops were formed, a short time before the firing ceased—Several other Witnesses prove, that they saw me out of the Fort, at several times, as well on the 15th as the 16th—What foundation is there, therefore, for the charge that during the whole time of the cannonade, I took shelter in the Fort?

Major Snelling's testimony is so important, as to my personal appearance, that I cannot but direct the attention of the Court to any circumstance in his testimony on any other point, which I think may develope the spirit or disposition with which he has testified—With this view, I beg the Court to notice, that Major Snelling has testified, that when he returned from the Spring Wells, on the morning of the 16th at dawn of day, he went into the Fort to make his report to me. "But," says the major, "I could not find the General, nor find any one who knew where he was." It has been proved by other witnesses, that I was out of the Fort at that time—Now, when Major Snelling could not find me in the Fort, nor find any body that knew I was there, it seems to me, he might have ventured to say, I was not in the Fort at that time. I do think, he had at least as good grounds, to draw that conclusion, as he had to infer, that I was under personal fear, from the appearance he observed. Major Snelling does, in a subsequent part of his examination, say, that I was out of the Fort, early that morning. But whether this refers to the time when he made his report or not, I do not know—

I have now, Gentlemen, done with this charge, so far as it respects my personal appearance and deportment.

You, who, I am to persume, and do believe, are brave and honourable men, will judge of what I must have suffered, to have sat here day after day, listening to imputations, of all others the most wounding to the feelings of a soldier. To have these imputations cast upon me, by representations, intended to make me appear abjectly and disgustingly base. To be obliged to hear my name and fame, polluted by the testimony which has been given—To be obliged to repeat the language of the Witnesses, in my defence, are in themselves punishment, hardly inferior to that, which would be the consequence of your pronouncing me guilty—But, Gentlemen, of that, upon this charge of Cowardice, I am bold to say, I have no dread—

I have fought more battles, than many of the young men, who have impeached me of this crime, have numbered years—

I appeal to the History that bears record of those who were engaged in the bloody contest for our liberties—There you shall often find my *name,* but not as Coward!—

I have brought before you the testimony of the few, who remain, of those who were my companions in Arms, in times that tried men's souls—Do *they* say I am a Coward? I invoke the spirits of the departed Heroes, who have died at my side, by the sword of the Enemy to say if I am a coward—

I would call the shades of Gates, Wayne, Schuyler, and of Washington, to tell you, how often they have led me to battle, and to say if they found me Coward—

Will you believe that the spirit which has so often prompted me to risk my life for my Country, should now

so far have forsaken me, as that I should have become a Traitor and a Coward?

Will you believe that the years in which I have grown grey in my Country's service, should so far have changed my nature, as that I could have been the base and abject thing, my Enemies have represented?

No, Gentlemen. That blood which animated my youth, age has not chilled.—I at this moment, feel its influence, and it makes me dare to say, that no man ever did, or can think me Coward—

Before I conclude, permit me to say, a few words—It may be thought that I have spoken of the officers, who have been Witnesses against me, with too much asperity —They have, in my opinion, forfeited all claims to my respect; but I do not mean to charge any of them with wilful perjury—I believe they have imbibed a prejudice and bias against me, which has influenced the perceptions of their own minds—My object, by the examination I have given their testimony, has been, to make that bias and prejudice appear to you—Many of them are young men, who give their Country great promise. Many of them, I believe, have good hearts; and such, I know, will one day regret, that they should have yielded to an influence, which has induced them to represent me in colors, that they will be conscious I have not deserved. I know the time will come, when they will consider how they courted my favor, when I was in power, and how they treated me, when they thought I was in disgrace, and saw me in adversity—

When that time comes, as come, I am sure it will, let it be a consolation to them, to know that, whatever may be my fate, I pity, and from my heart, forgive them.

I have now, Gentlemen, concluded my defence—I have noticed every accusation, which the Judge Advocate, in the opening of the cause, mentioned as those, which he should rely upon, and which he expected to maintain—I have not left, as I believe, any part of the specifications, to which any testimony whatever was offered, unanswered—

Allow me, Mr President, and Gentlemen of the Court, with the most heartfelt sensibility, to return you my sincere thanks, for the manner in which this trial has been conducted. For tho' as I humbly conceive, there has been some departure from accustomed forms, in respect to the examination of Witnesses, I know that the Court has been governed by nothing but its own sense of propriety—

The conduct of the Members of this Court, and of the Judge Advocates, has been such as I had anticipated, and every thing that I could expect from honorable, impartial and humane men.

Whatever may be your sentence, I shall always, with gratitude, acknowledge that I have had a fair, candid and patient hearing.

I do feel myself bound to make particular acknowledgements to the Special Judge Advocate, for the delicacy and propriety of his deportment towards me, and tho' I may feel the force of the talents, with which he has conducted this prosecution, it shall not make me forget what I owe to his humanity and liberality—

Gentlemen, my life is in your hands. But you are Guardians of what is more dear to me—You are the Guardians of my Honor—With you, in sacred deposit, is that Sword, which has been my companion in times that

might have appalled the weak hearted—It has been taken from me, till you shall pronounce, that I am *not* unworthy to wear it—I feel, that in justice, I may demand it of you —And when I shall receive it at your hands, believe me, that here is yet enough of heart and life, and in this arm is yet nerve enough, to draw it in vindication of my Country's rights.

If I should receive it, *untarnished,* by your judgment, I may yet live to prove, by my future, as well as by my past conduct, how I have been *calumniated,* and the *justice* of your *Sentence.*

[General Hull here closed his defence. He then offered to the Court the following written observations:]

Having now closed my final defence, I have only to add an objection, which I am compelled at this time to make, in anticipation of a priviledge, which I understand the Judge Advocate [requested?], Viz—That of summing up the evidence. As far as my research has extended, it is a priviledge sometimes admitted by writers on Martial Law, but never exercised—One which has grown out of the reasoning of authors, rather than the admission of Courts; & in the compilation of military trials in England, a solitary instance is scarcely to be found of its being either claimed or exercised—The reason is evident; the Judge Advocate is a component part of the Court, he officiates in the arrangement of the testimony; and as the law member of the Court, acts equally, when required, in that capacity, for the accused & the Government. He opens the cause, because having previously arranged & marshalled the testimony for trial, some development of the charges and evidence, is necessary. He is consulted in all periods of the trial, & when their several duties

are concluded, his functions are at an end. The character of this Court, precludes the necessity of *comment;* & it is to be presumed that this Court, noting & examining the testimony of a cause, deciding on legal questions as they arise on the trial, can require the aid of professional ingenuity? That the daily investigation of these charges, should still be incomplete without the comments of Council on facts—This Court differs very materially from other Courts—It is selected from professional men, competent to decide on questions of science, & the facts when submitted, give to the Court alone the province of judging of their application—And the cases so often introduced, of the proceedings in the Common Law Courts, is by no means paralell.—There, Juries decide on the law and the fact—Blended as they are, they require some exposition from the public prosecutor, to men wanting his professional science & of course, his intelligence—The necessity of the rule, sanctions its admissions; *but* where that necessity does not exist, no principle that *I* yet know, can authorise its indulgence. In the present trial, evidence has been admitted of unofficerlike conduct, in matters of military skill, whether I as an officer, was authorised in not attacking Malden? On this charge, can it be supposed, that the law member of the Court would be consulted? Is a charge exclusively governed by military rules, to require a comment, from that part of the Court placed *here* alone to facilitate the trial? The judgment of the Court is formed on professional distinctions, which they as military men, can alone know, & therefore can neither require, nor ask the aid of professional talent & industry. The usage of our Country, as far as this Court would feel themselves authorised to

admit, has discountenanced it—On the trial of General St. Clair, it was not permitted; on the trial of General Wilkinson, tho' expressly urged by the Judge Advocate, Mr Jones, it was denied. In both cases the Judge Advocate was permitted to open the charges, because it was necessary to give to the Court possession of the facts—But there *his* duties end, and the functions of the Court commence. This permission may be claimed as matter of indulgence, but certainly not of right, & here let me add, that however gratified I should be in giving to the Judge Advocate the opportunity his talents & industry so justly entitle him to, I cannot, consistent with military propriety, refrain from objecting to a mode of procedure novel and unauthorised—[1]

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[1]The Court took under consideration General Hull's objections but decided that the Judge Advocate should be permitted to sum up the testimony to the Court.

The three charges preferred against General Hull were:

I. Treason
II. Cowardice
III. Neglect of duty and unofficer-like conduct.

The Court acquitted Hull of the charge of treason, but convicted him upon both the second and third charges; they acquitted him of certain of the specifications under the third charge.

The sentence was pronounced as follows:

"The Court in consequence of their determination respecting the second and third charges, and the specifications under those charges exhibited against the said Brigadier General William Hull—and after due consideration do sentence him to be shot to death, two thirds of the Court concurring in the sentence.

The Court in consideration of Brigadier General Hull's revolutionary services, and his advanced age, earnestly recommend him to the mercy of the President of the United States."

On April 25, 1814, President Madison returned the following decision: "The sentence of the Court is approved; and the execution of it remitted.

James Madison."

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